THE Fisherman

—THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION—

November 3rd—9th, 1983
Volume 18, Number 44

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THE Fisherman

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ABOUT THE COVER:

Just a reminder to striper fans that the recently enacted Striped Bass Management Bill, which included raising the minimum size limit to 24 inches, goes into effect on November 7th.

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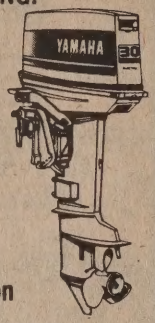

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LINSIDER LURE COMPANY ALIVE AND WELL

Regarding your article "Sand Eel Slander" in the October 13th issue of *The Long Island Fisherman*, and specifically concerning the availability of our Needlefish plug, there are several points that must be clarified.

We are still (never stopped) making the Needlefish. In fact, the demand for the plug has increased so dramatically in the last two years, that we've quadrupled production since 1981. And we are still shipping, from Nantucket down and through the entire state of New Jersey, as many as we make. (The first commercially available Needlefish on Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard were Linesider Lures five years ago.) That they are not readily available on Long Island is as much our fault as that of the Long Island dealers. Because of production demands here, and because we only sell dealer-direct, it's impossible to sacrifice personal time dedicated to in-person promotion. Our monthly mailings, to virtually every tackle shop on the Island, encourages the dealers to contact us directly. If they fail to do so, the average fisherman obviously, and unfortunately, doesn't have the opportunity to purchase and work our lures. Please note that our primary concern has always been quality of construction at a fair price. We use the best hardware, of its type, and the best Mustad hooks, available.

Number two—it was not specified that the photo used in your article is of four Linesider Lure models. They are the Nautilus Bottle Popper, the Tailwalker bluefish plug, the Pencil Popper and the one ounce Needlefish. Please note that the first three all utilize the more expensive and efficient thru-wire construction.

Number three—the reference in your article about our coming move to North Carolina is reasonably correct. It must be noted, however, that this move will be of benefit to all concerned, and will not affect our continuing production program in any way. We will be in a *new, modern* facility which will enable us to vastly increase our production capability while still maintaining our quality level, and most importantly, keep our prices at an ongoing competitive level. Our regular production schedule will *only* be affected for a two week, off-season period (like a normal vacation) during the immediate time of the move.

For your own reference, we build five saltwater plug models (in various sizes and colorations): Pencil Popper, Nautilus Bottle Popper, BLitz Popper, Needlefish, and the Tailwalker; and five freshwater "Striper, Muskie, Pike" models (again in various sizes and colors): Choo-Choo Chugger, Prop-Pop, Golden Retriever stickbait, Prop-Job propellor plug, and the Dirty Ernie swimmer/jerkbait. We utilize the same construction techniques and hardware on our sweetwater models as we do on the saltwater lures, enabling them to be effectively crossed-over into saltwater use when conditions warrant.

For the information of you and your readers, our current address is: The Linesider Co., P.O. Box 278, Lavallette, New Jersey 08735, 201/793-3392.

Our future North Carolina address will be: The Linesider Co., Rt. 1, Box 181C, Merry Hill, North Carolina 27957. Best Wishes, *Barry G. Davis.*

ON PARK ACCESS

Dear Dr. Muller:

Your editorial on state park access certainly told it like it is. Today we live in a society where respect for law and respect for the rights of others in becoming a thing of the past. We can only hope that someday this attitude will change.

Would it be possible to change the entry time at Democrat Point from 7AM to perhaps 10AM, Monday to Friday? Getting up at 4:30AM to make the 7AM deadline gets tougher as you get older. A change in hours would allow senior citizens an opportunity to get down to fish more often. Vehicle access is a Godsend. We can load up our cars with the necessary fishing equipment that we could not carry in from a parking lot.

Many thanks to you and the other members of the Fishing Advisory Board for your diligent efforts on behalf of surf fishermen. *Joseph T. Daly, New Hyde Park, NY.*

Your expression of hope for an attitude change among some of our fellow citizens is optimistic. You're asking for the pendulum to swing back to the ideals and values of several decades ago. Attitudes will not change for the better unless each of us, in our own way, makes an effort to set standards, limits, and goals for our children. Too many parents today are not interested in rearing their children and are more content to pray that their children will not be around too much and that somehow by divine guidance and intervention everything will be all right. Well, it doesn't work that way. As they say in computer science, "garbage in, garbage out."

Regarding your inquiry on the access time at Democrat Point: I brought this issue to the attention of the Parks Commission. They told me that it is a problem that has already been addressed. However, they concluded that a change of time would not accomplish very much in that it would satisfy the needs of one group of people while creating heretofore non-existent problems for other groups of patrons. If, for example, the

access time was 10AM, then the die-hard dawn fisherman would be up the creek. It may be tougher, as you suggest, to get those bones movin' early in the morning, but if the fishing is good—what the hell, try it! Dr. W.A. Muller.

THANKS FOR SEND-A-KID FISHING

On behalf of the children and volunteer Big Brothers and Sisters in our program, I would like to express my sincerest thanks to The Long Island Fisherman and all of your readers who helped, for the fabulous fishing trip you arranged for us. I would also like to express thanks for the children from Nassau House, Hicksville Youth Council, East Norwich/Oyster Bay Youth Council, Youth Environmental Services and Big Brothers/Sisters of Suffolk, who also enjoyed this thoughtful and generous day of fishing out of Captree.

One of the objectives that we at Big Brothers and Sisters of Nassau County try to achieve is to expose the kids in our program to a variety of new and enriching experiences. For many, if not most of the 150 people in attendance, this was their first experience with fishing and a very positive one at that. The fluke were really biting and most of us were able to enjoy a fluke dinner that evening.

Thank you again for thinking of us. It's people like you who help to add fun and enjoyment to the lives of people less fortunate than us.

Sincerely, *Wm. G. Tymann, Exec. Dir., Big Brothers/Sisters of Nassau County.*

Thanks to Fisherman readers, the Send-A-Kid Fishing Program was a resounding success. The generous donations of our readers were directly responsible for sending over 200 youngsters, many of them first timers, out for a day on the water. Fred Golofaro.

A PLEA TO CONSERVE

Several weeks back, I took my kids snapper fishing at Captree and while on the pier, I observed a very disheartening sight. In this day of depleted fish stocks, I saw dead bluefish floating away in the tide. As it was an ebb tide, I know those fish came from the party boats which tie up just adjacent to the fishing pier.

We all know what happened to the striped bass and other species. Now that we have an abundance of bluefish let's not spoil it for the future. If you go fishing and have caught all you could possibly use, don't keep boating fish after fish only to let them go to waste. Either quit and watch the action or if you must enjoy the action, flatten the barb on your hooks with a pair of pliers so that the fish may easily escape at boatside without having to gaff him.

Let's take care of our bluefish today so that we will have him around in the future. Please, don't ruin a good thing. *Lou Mauriello, Seaford, NY.*

PASS IT ON...

LADY REELERS SEPTEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Long Island's first all women's fishing club met recently and discussed their catches for the month of September. The Fish of the Month went to Diane Camerlingo with a 13 lb. 8 oz. bluefish. She also boated a 4.8 lb. fluke and a 2.8 lb. porgy. Lee Kessler's fluke weighed in at 9.8 lbs. and her bluefish weighed 12.12 lbs. Donna Pratt's bluefish weighed 12.6 lbs., Maryann Petrignani, 2 lb. flounder; Marie Lass, 3.8 lb. fluke; Betty Alfieri, 4.11 lb. sea bass and Lorry Mangan, 10.15 lb. weakfish and 14.4 lb. bluefish.

ATTENTION BOATERS! BOATING SAFETY COURSE OFFERED IN FREEPORT

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 13-6 is offering a Public Education Course in Boating Safety and Seamanship.

The course will cover boating safety and legal requirements, rules of the road, aids to navigation, piloting, marine engines, marlinspike seamanship and radiotelephone.

The course is free of charge to all interested boaters, with a nominal charge for materials.

The course will be given on Monday evenings at 8PM in Cow Meadow Park, Freeport.

For further information, call (516) 379-5424 or (516) 379-1665.

ALL CLUBS ANNUAL INVITATIONAL CODFISH TOURNAMENT

The Oakdale Sportsmens Club will host the All-Clubs Annual Invitational Codfish Tournament, to be held on Saturday, November 12, 1983, with an alternate date of Sunday, November 13, 1983.

The tournament is open to all clubs entering one to four boat teams. All entries will leave and enter Fire Island or Jones Inlets. Weighmasters will be at Frank and Dick's Bait & Tackle in the State Boat Channel and at Hudson Point in Freeport.

Prizes will be Penn International reels, awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd heaviest codfish and 1st, 2nd and 3rd for total weight depending on the fees collected.

The entry fee is $60 per boat. The last date for entry is November 9, 1983. A Captains' meeting will be held at Captain Bill's in Bay Shore, at the foot of Ocean Avenue.

For registration and further information, contact Bruce Bandes, (516) 589-3330; or Charles Johnson, (516) 589-7005.

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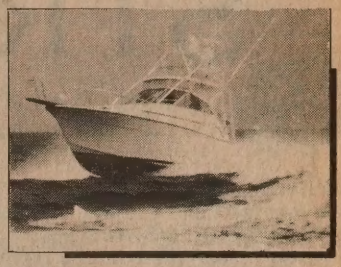

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SANDY HOOK FOR STRIPED BASS

Part One—*by Mark Denison*

Anyone who loves striped bass fishing knows that the fishing is way off from what it once was ten years ago, but that doesn't mean there are no fish to be caught. Thinking back on the ease with which a lot of bassmen slaughtered striped bass by catching them on live bunker, I'm glad the bass fishing is harder. I'd like to be catching more fish, but one of the main things that made striped bass so interesting to me was the difficulty in catching him.

My bass fishing goes back over 25 years when I fished from my car-topper launching off the surf at Monmouth Beach or launching under the bridge at the Highlands. When I first started, it was a big fish at 25 pounds that turned heads, then in the late 60s it became so easy to catch bass and the size got larger all the time, that fish of 40 pounds were being caught by complete novices who had no more knowledge of bass fishing than the thought that someone told them to go buy a dozen bunker and they'd catch a dozen fish.

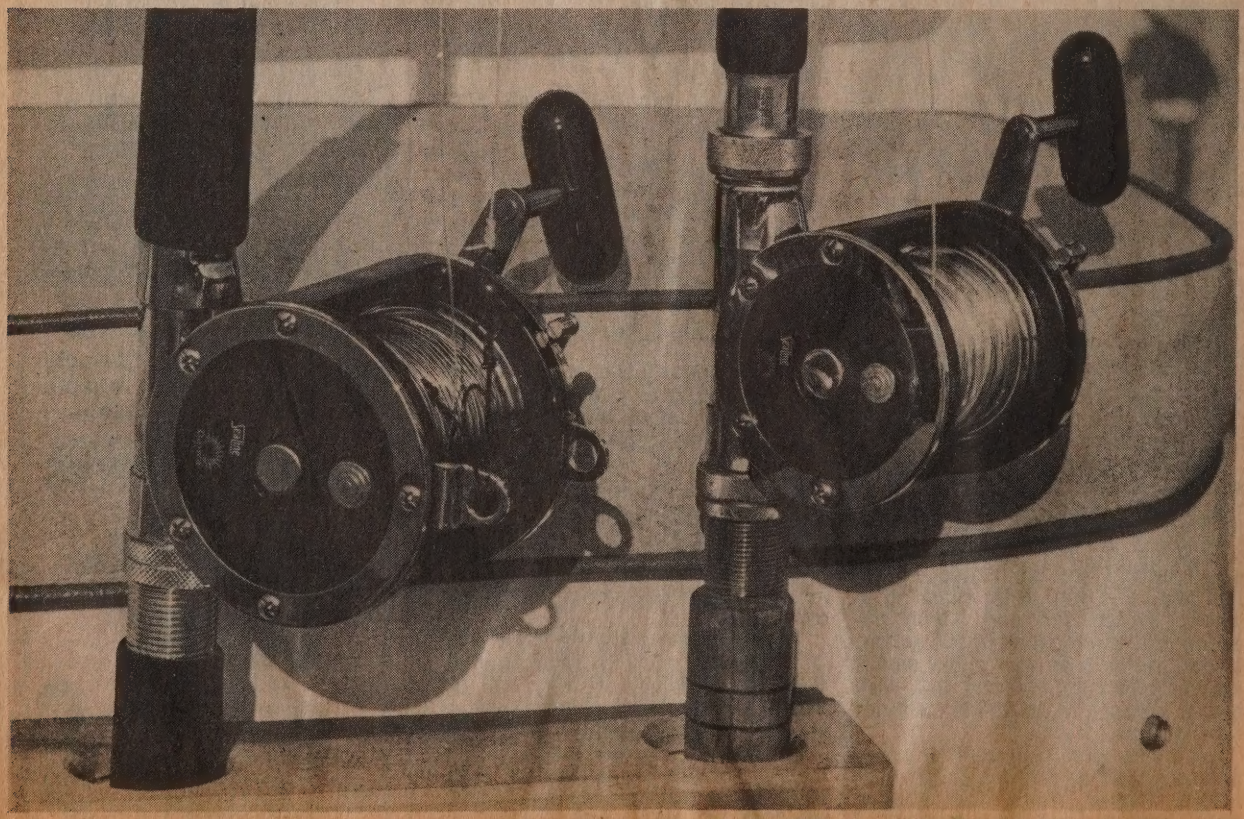
On good years I used to total up about 250 or so bass; on the lean years, I was lucky (skilled) enough to still catch over 100. I haven't slipped under the 100 mark in the last ten years, but I think that is because I still put in the time and don't give up even though the numbers of bass are way down. Like someone once said, "You can't catch striped bass if the lure ain't in the water."

I'm going to cover my techniques of bass fishing in two parts: the first one dealing with trolling tubes, plugs and umbrella rigs in the areas around Flynn's Knoll, the Rip and between the channels. The second part will cover some deep water bass fishing that few fishermen ever try.

This is all wire line trolling. I use Daiwa 400HW reels because they have stainless steel spools and fast retrieve ratios. I use only 50 yards of wire and put one tape mark at the 100 foot length since I rarely ever fish with less than 50 feet in the water. I either fish with 100 or 150 feet. If I have to go deeper, I use trolling drails at the tail end of the leader if I'm fishing umbrellas, at the head end of the leader if fishing spoons, single tubes or plugs.

I like many different lures and use them on different occasions. Umbrella rigs are the standard for me and I like tube colors that lean towards the dark side with deep reds, purples and black my favorites. I also use green and sometimes white if the water is very murky. Single tubes in the same colors are good, too, and again I like the dark colors, but have had some good fish on amber tubes along the edges of False Hook and sometimes use amber as the tailing tube on the rigs.

Big plugs are not used by most bass fishermen any more, but I like them. Best colors are yellow, white, and rainbow color with a silver flash on the side. Plugs can be fished directly on mono at shallow spots like the Rip at the tip of the hook. If the plug dives deep, use less wire when fishing



Good choices for wire line trolling include the Daiwa 300HW and 400HW and the Penn 112H and 113H.

between the channels or you will be digging a new channel to New York with the diving lip and catching lots of escargot!

When most bass fishermen talk of spoons they mean bunker spoons, yet I have never been able to catch a lot of fish on spoons, except in deep water. I use the Acetta spoons and Clarks Squid spoons fished in singles as dropbacks off the rig or on a spreader bar like for bluefish. I tried the spreader bar last fall and while specifically looking for blues, I began to catch small bass.

I believe the best tides are the incoming at this time of year. Many of the bass we catch here at the mouth to Sandy Hook Bay are ready to go up to the wintering grounds on the Hudson River and so the incoming tide helps bring them into the Bay where we get a shot at them as they swim past us to the river. It is common to find schools of fish staying put in one area for a week or two as they feed to gain weight before winter. In that case, either tide will catch fish. Slack tide is to be avoided.

Some anglers like the full moon, but I have never done well in the moon. Give me the incoming tide at daybreak three to five nights after the moon for the best catches of fish.

Most of the fish will be small size. My average fish has dropped from the high 20s in the late Sixties to only 11 pounds in 1981 and 1982. These figures will give you an idea how much smaller the bass are that we are catching now. I have only had two fish all year in 1982 that went over 25 pounds!

When trolling, I believe you have to fish the dropoffs into the channels or deeper water to catch consistently. When trolling Flynn's Knoll, I work along the edge in a left to right pattern that brings the lures over the top of the shelf and then drops them over the deep edge going back and forth repeatedly to look for fish.

I do the same thing between the channels, but sometimes you will find bass in small schools on what appears to be the middle of the high ground, but if you look at your recording paper carefully you should see that they are actually schooling along a small piece of slightly higher ground than the bottom surrounding it. A very slight rise in the bottom will hold bass.

I like to fish the rip in a side to side motion working the plug, umbrella or spoon back and forth through the edge of the rip. I feel it is best to fish the rip at night when there is little chance of other boats being around to ruin your pattern and set.

The most important thing about fishing these waters is not to get discouraged, but keep trying. I sometimes spend 14 hours trolling on the water and in only two of those hours will the action be good. The rest of the time is spent in looking for fish and the right tide conditions, and the right bottom. Wait the fish out; they will be there. If you don't have this patience, then you had better go bluefishing.

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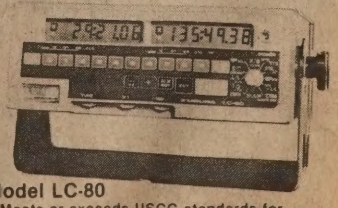

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TO CATCH A COD

by Matt Ahern

With the "traditional" cod season upon us, this sinker bouncing expert shares some of his codfishing expertise.

Fishermen who know me well know that I am a codfishing fanatic from 'way back. It has been so for well over a half-century. I can't tell you when I first became mesmerized by codfish, but this "love affair" certainly has been of long duration. I guess one can blame it on those old-timers from my old Brooklyn neighborhood. They were so enthusiastic about codfishing, it would have been strange indeed if a certain amount of this passion had failed to rub off on me. And rub off it did.

Through photos in magazines and newspapers I knew what a codfish looked like—but I'd never seen one "up close and in person." That was the way it was, but it was due to end on a certain wintry Saturday evening when several local codfishermen had stopped by at the neighborhood "speakeasy" to warm up. I was passing by as they came out and I watched them go to their cars and remove several dozen cod of various sizes and lay them on the sidewalk. This, you may be sure, caused me and many passers-by to halt dead in our tracks and gather 'round.

"Help yourselves, fellers," a red-haired giant told the assembled crowd. "One to a customer."

Well, there was a mad scramble as you can imagine. In minutes, all the cod except one small specimen were gone. This lone cod was bedraggled by careless handling and weighed about four/five pounds. And there it lay, a reject, a lone survivor of those hectic few moments, and a temptation to me. Boy! I remember thinking, if only I had the nerve to reach down and pick up that cod and take it home; but those days knee-pants kids were to be seen and not heard.

"Hey, kid," the red-haired fisherman said. "Yeah...you. You want this fish, it's yours. Nothing wrong with it a good washing won't cure."

And I had my first cod!

I took that cod home and I studied it, taking note of the large head, the large bucket-like mouth, the chin barbel, the three heavy spine-free dorsal fins, the strong, heavy tail. Here was a fish created by the Master to endure, to live a rugged life in the open sea; here was a fish that would brook no nonsense by those around it. Here was a fish worthy of all fishermen.

Thus began an association which has persisted lo these many years. From that moment on I became a cod fanatic, one whose enthusiasm has never dampened; one whose enthusiasm would eventually be equaled and surpassed only by my fishing buddy of 63 years, Artie Leidecker. I now believe that as a kid, I existed solely for the purpose of catching cod like those I'd seen that cold, winter evening so many years ago. Little did I know that all my wishes would be fulfilled, that those kid-like dreams would become reality.

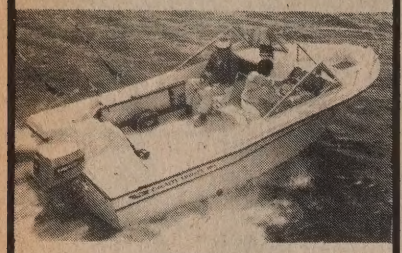
The potential of decking a "soaker" like these, adds to the appeal of the cod game.

But enough! Let's stop all the horn-tooting and such and see how to go about catching cod for those who have never done so.

I have found that for the serious beginning codfisherman, it is best to plan on a trip or two aboard a party boat, or to somehow make arrangements to get in on a charter trip. The

(Continued on next page.)

1984
Grady-White



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latter is easier said than done, I know; but it is suggested as a possibility which should be acted upon if the opportunity presents itself.

These are the areas where, by paying strict attention to the methods employed, novice codfishermen can quickly attain the skills needed to bring to gaff their share of the available fish.

As with all fishing, basic knowledge is essential. The more fishermen know about the skills necessary to take the fish they seek, the sooner will success come. All common sense, of course. As for codfishing, there are many things of importance to learn, but first is the selection of proper tackle.

There are probably more spinning outfits in use today than any other type. They are excellent, do their job well, and their ease of handling has probably been responsible for more fishermen joining the ranks than any other single item in the past 30 years. But if you want cod, this is not the tackle to use. No spinning outfit is made for the conditions encountered when codfishing.

The rod selected for codfishing should have a generous amount of backbone, backbone enough to sink a good-sized hook into the leather-like jaws of a cod in water depth that may at times be as much as 100 feet—sometimes more. True, most codfishing is done in lesser depths as a rule, but your sinkers are going to be on the heavy side to combat strong tidal currents found in winter. This can only be done properly with a rod stiff enough to overcome these difficulties.

To do this, the rod need not be built along the lines of a two-by-four. There are many excellent rods available which are light and sturdy, yet have the right amount of stiffness to properly do the job. Check with your favorite tackle shop, or ask an experienced buddy to help in your selection.

The reel should match the rod and be a conventional, revolving spool type, one capable of holding at least 150 yards of good quality 30 or 40 pound test monofilament. Be sure to get the best line you can afford—it pays!

The selection of a good reel is extremely important. Shun those so-called "bargains." There are no bargains where good codfishing tackle is concerned. Your reel must have the "oomph" to winch to the surface any large cod you may encounter, a cod that may go 40 pounds and better. The average winter cod in the New York Bight will run about six to ten pounds, but as codfishermen never know just how large the next one will be, this is no place to save a buck. Shun those "Hong-Kong Specials" as you would the plague.

Don't forget: there are many good reels on the market, reels that are a combination of perfect materials, precision machining, and flawless craftsmanship. Avail yourself of one. It will give you those many years of satisfactory service you have a right to expect. Don't settle for anything less than that. Why risk the bitterness of losing the fish of your dreams because that "bargain" reel gave up the ghost at the most crucial moment. I've seen it happen—don't let it happen to you!

Rigging for cod is easily done and the simpler it is, the better. The best piece of advice I can give you right now (and this pertains to all types of bottom fishing) is this: the less hardware, the better. Don't be conned by all those fancy gadgets put on the market to catch fishermen not fish—especially when codfishing, for old whiskers is indeed line shy and spooky. I allow myself the comfort of a three-way swivel—4/0 to 6/0 in size—only at certain times, such as during full and new moon phases when currents are stronger and I feel that perhaps my hook (or hooks) may entangle about the main line. Some codfishermen I know, Artie Leidecker is one, frown on the use of **any** hardware. They are willing to take their chances on line entanglement. But I would rather not go through this nagging doubt, so I do add a three-way swivel now and then.

If you decide to use three-way swivels, never attach them to the main line with single overhand knots. These knots weaken monofilament to some extent and when you add the weight of a cod to the rig, the chances are good for failure. Use improved clinch knots instead. Dropper loops will get by if they are made with **double-overhand** knots.

The best codfishing sinker in my estimation is one of the common bank styles. I'll probably get flack on that, but who says I know everything. I can only tell you what works for me. How heavy sinkers should be depends on existing conditions, of course. You must be able to hold bottom at all times—moving bait is not known to excite many cod. I would plan on using at least an eight ounce sinker, rarely less than this. (I remember one time using 24 ounces on the old Sugar Barrel off Long Beach. Damned near broke my wrist before the day was out; but we caught plenty of big cod that time!)

Now we come to the most important part of your terminal tackle: your hooks. There are probably as many thoughts about hook sizes and hook styles as there are fishermen—and this goes whether you fish for flounder or cod.

To far too many fishermen a hook is a hook—period. But the master fisherman, the expert, is positively fanatical about hooks. If you doubt this, watch the next good fisherman you see. His fussiness about hooks will drive you up the wall—but this is one of the reasons he is a good fisherman.

I could go on and on about hooks, but this isn't the place for it. Some day I shall, but right now we're interested in codfishermen and the hooks they use.

To my mind the best cod hook is the Sproat. This hook has been around for at least 100 years...perhaps more. Many years ago the standard cod hook was silk-wrapped on heavy tarred line and consisted of Mustad's 8/0 or 9/0 Sproat hook—the choice was yours. This was the cod hook. It did its job well. But today's fishermen have opted for other types and sizes. Much experimentation has led me to the 5/0 and 6/0 regular-shanked Sproat snelled to 40 lb. test mono leader material.

I've caught more cod on these two hooks than any other I've used over the years. But this isn't entirely due to these hooks. The advent of monofilament line had much to do with it. I know I've caught larger cod since mono came onto the scene. I'm positive that our highly noticeable white linen line used in those long-gone days spooked many a big cod. No one can convince me that the New York Bight contained only average-sized cod of eight to ten pounds in the long-ago—with 40 pounders so rare they caused comment in the daily fishing columns of the day.

If I'm fishing cod over open bottom I will use a high-low rig, if over a wreck or an area that is indeed "sticky," I will use but one hook. When using a high-low rig, the top hook should be placed about three or three and a half feet above the sinker, the bottom one a snell's length over the sinker. If ling are on tap, you can get a few if you lower the bottom hook so that the bait lies on bottom. Ling will sometimes swim off bottom for bait, but why not make it easy for them. You'll find that most cod will take the high hook and if there are pollock about, they are sure to be caught on this one.

Always be alert when codfishing. This is no time to gaze at the horizon or wonder how that party boat far off in the distance is doing. Cod aren't really tricky, but many times one will snuggle up to a bait and hang on, giving no notice of its presence. The surprised fisherman only discovers this when he lifts the rod to a more comfortable position—or whatever. I think I've caught more of the snuggling kind than the tugging kind, but regardless, it is up to the fisherman to drive that hook home the moment weight is felt. Prepare for a merry few minutes. The fish will pound. Don't get excited; let it. This will tire the fish quickly. If your reel's drag is set properly, it can't get away.

Skimmer clam is the bait most often used, although some fishermen take their own bait along—squid, sheddar crab, sand eels, conch, even fresh mackerel and herring fillets. Some will cut strips from the first bergall they catch. But with all this, I believe just as many cod are caught on skimmer as anything else.

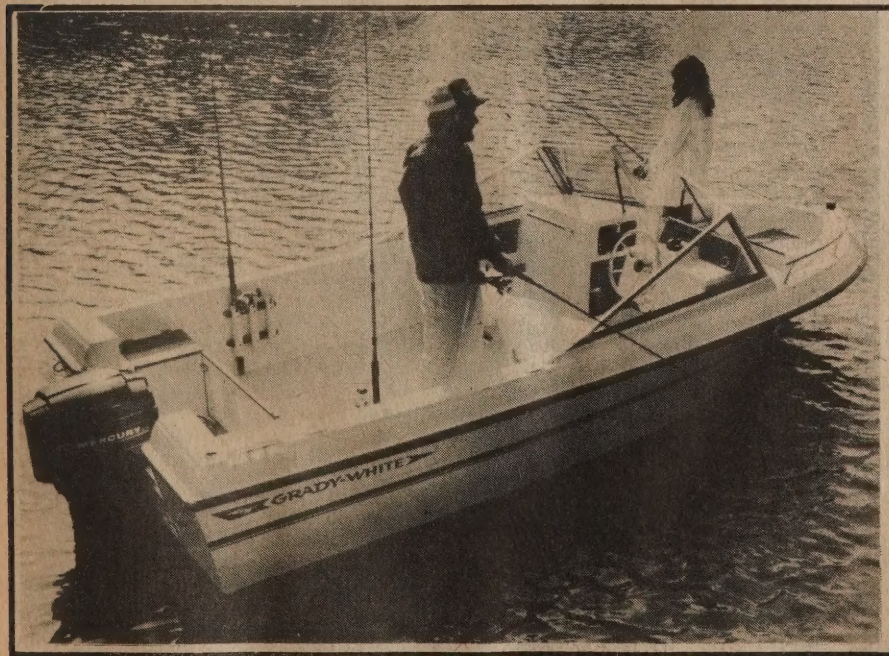
Cod are caught over many different bottoms, ranging from inshore sand during the early part of the run, to offshore rocky ledges such as the Cholera Bank off Long Beach and New Jersey's offshore Seabright grounds and 17 Fathom Bank. Various sunken wrecks well-known to many party and charter boat skippers, and which abound off both coasts, play host to many large cod each year.

If you fish from a charter or party boat, it is the captain's responsibility to locate fish, and locate them he will. Many novice beginning codfishermen blame the skipper when the fishing is much to be desired. This, to my mind, is wrong. The blame lies with the fish that deserted the grounds the captain selected.

Remember, many codfishing skippers have been chasing cod for 50 years and more. They are past masters at the game. There isn't much they don't know about the feeding habits of cod. They want you to catch fish and they'll do everything humanly possible to see that you do. Don't fault them when fish seek greener pastures. Please.

One more thing. Stick with the party or charter boat you like, one on which you feel most comfortable aboard. You can tell; it's like a sixth-sense. Pay attention when advice is given, follow suggestions. When you do this, you'll soon have cod coming over the rail.

Why—you might even become one of those fanatical codfishermen I mentioned before. And wouldn't that be nice.



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LOOK SOUTH FOR LATE FALL BLUES

by Herb Buch

Last November provided the surf crowd with some fine memories. Many south shore casters are counting on a repeat of the action.

One evening early in October I was working an eel worm on the back side of West End hoping for some action. It was almost sundown when I felt a light touch and set the hook. A short while later I beached a big bunker. Knowing that bass and blues will often hit a hooked bunker, I put this one near my bag and went back to the shore. The next one I hooked, I let run around for awhile, but nothing seemed to be interested, so I brought it in and unhooked it. Since the tide was slacking, I decided to cut one up and fish bait. I filleted one of the bunker on an old timber about 20 feet down the beach and returned to my bag to dig out a bucktail. After tying it onto my line, I returned for a strip of bait and saw a gull sitting there. In the short time that I was away it had eaten every strip of bunker. I was in no mood to fillet another bunker in the dark, so I decided to take the other one home and freeze it. That led to some of the best fishing that I had during the whole season.

There were recurring reports of blues being taken along the beach on bunker chunks. Everyone I spoke to said that it was slow, but that there was a chance for a fish. On the twenty-first of the month after a lot of miserable weather, we had a good forecast on a weekday that I did not have to go to work. There was a high water at about 3:30 in the afternoon and the day would be clear, sunny and breezy. The southwest wind made me feel hopeful as it very often produces action on the south shore beaches.

We arrived at the beach at low water and walked along looking for a favorable spot to fish. Because of the time of day and the recent bad weather, the beach was almost deserted. A few others were working the shoreline with tins and plugs, but there was plenty of room. Some of the fishermen were barefoot and dressed in swim trunks to make the most of this Indian Summer day. The surf was moderate, but clean and the sweep was not bad. I filleted by frozen bunker on a piece of wood, and quickly wrapped the pieces in paper and hid them in the shade of my bag. The gulls have beaten me to my bait many times, but the last experience was still fresh in my memory.

We spent four hours fishing that

This huge blue was duped by a bunker chunk at Jones Beach. The largest slammers are most often taken on bait. An unusually balmy late fall day allowed for the shorts.

day, till just after high water. Six run-offs produced four blues of 7, 16, 17 and 20 pounds. Fighting big blues like these during the day is an extra thrill because you can see them jump, watch them in the waves, and appreciate their beauty when you beach them.

This action was not a one-shot deal. It persisted at many points on the south shore into November. My last good trip was on November 6th. After that I could not get out until November 14th and the surf was unfishable as a result of a northeast storm. Birds were working not too far off the beach, to indicate the presence of fish, but my guess was that they were on the move. I did not see any more blues on the beach after that although I understand that big blues were taken from south shore beaches as late as December 6th.

A pattern has been developing which indicates that really big blues often work the beaches and inlets some time in October. I have been hearing reports for years but never got involved. The fish do not break water and do not seem to be in schools. They have been taken from Coney Island all the way out to Montauk and around into the Sound. My past information seemed to indicate that you had to be out at dawn or dark to score. Last year's experience proved that even a beautiful sunny day could be productive. The size of the fish made the fishing more than worthwhile even on a slow day. It offers a chance to fight a big fish under conditions which offer maximum enjoyment.

If the idea interests you, these are the conditions which you should look for. During the day, a moderate surf, preferably caused by southerly breezes, seemed to be necessary for good action. Occasional fish may be caught under any conditions, but if the surf is calm night fishing is more likely to produce. Along the beaches, the last half of the incoming tide was most favorable. At inlets the tide may not be as important as the time of day. Boat traffic usually diminishes in the evening, so that time or early morning would be the best bet.

The average fisherman hears the word bunker and assumes that "a bunker is a bunker." Not true. Some bunkers which you buy in bait shops may have been frozen when just caught. Others will smell bad and disintegrate when thawed. This last type may be good for crab bait, but not for fish. You will have to shop around to obtain the freshest bait which you can get. The best bait is one that you have caught yourself, the same day, and kept in a cool place.

If you want to freeze your own bait, the most important thing to do is to put it into a cooler with ice until you can freeze it. If you do this, you will have first quality bait, and the fish seem to know the difference.

While bunker makes excellent bait, any fresh fish seemed to work. Bass hunters know what blues do to their eels. Sometimes they get revenge by cutting an eel into pieces and using these as bait for the blues. Mackerel, being an oily fish, is an excellent bait. Snappers are good, but only if you froze them when they were just caught. I even had success with fresh bergalls, the result of a fruitless blackfish trip. At the risk of being repetitious, your bait must be as fresh as possible, even if it came from a freezer.

There is one rig that stands out. It is a modified fish finder rig. The simplest version requires a snap swivel attached to a pyramid sinker which will hold bottom. Thread your line through the loop of the swivel that is farthest from the sinker. Tie a large duo-lock snap on the end of your line. Now you can attach a leader to this snap and if a fish runs, it pulls your line through the eye of the swivel, without feeling too much of the sinker's weight. The hook you choose is up to you, but it will have to be attached to four or five inches of wire with a small swivel at the other end. Boat fishing bluefish hooks work fine. I rig my own with #5 bronzed stainless steel wire and a #7 black swivel. I attach about 20 inches of 50 pound mono to the swivel, slide on a red or yellow cork, and tie a loop at the end. If a bluefish is hooked deeply, do not play with him until he is dead. Unsnap the leader and snap on a new one.

With the right conditions, a good rig, and fresh bait, you are ready to hook the fish, but how do you land him. The first step is to set the hook. Sharpen all hooks before you hit the beach. You can either hold your rod or set it in a spike. Loosen your drag so that a fish can pull off some line easily. When you get a runoff, tighten the drag, tighten your line by reeling as you lower the tip, and then hit hard. Blues have hard jaws, and they can usually be landed on a bait rig if you set the hook.

Do not lock your drag as a big fish must be allowed to run a bit. Play the fish to the beach and then be patient. Try to lead the fish up the beach with a wave. At first, he will swim right back in the wash, and possibly break your line if you try to hold him. After several round trips, any fish will tire and when the receding waves leave him stranded, you can grab your 50 pound test leader and drag the fish up the beach. You will know that you were in a fight. Now you can snap on a new leader, bait the hook, spike the rod, and pull yourself together for awhile as you admire your catch.

If the action is slow, you can set out two rods, but I don't recommend it unless you have help to reel in the extras while you fight a fish. Some of the big ones can run down the beach and you should follow them. The fight of a bluefish on heavy tackle in the surf is something which you should experience. If you can do it on an Indian Summer day you will have warm memories to carry you through the winter.

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OPEN BOAT STRIPERS

by Sal Terranova

New York Bight anglers get a unique opportunity to tangle with the king of inshore game fish.

Striped bass are viewed with awe by many anglers who speak of them in a reverent tone of voice normally deemed appropriate for a meeting with the President of the United States. The way in which some fishermen consider going fishing for stripers is something akin to setting out on a search for the Holy Grail. You would think that only an angler endowed with the powers of the Wizard Merlin could hope to catch bass. When exposed to the light of reality, it is obvious that the mystique attached to this fish is totally blown out of proportion. Granted, striped bass are certainly not **easy** to catch. Successful bass fishing requires a lot of time, effort, attention to detail, and most of all, determination. Suffice it to say, bass fishing is not for those who are easily discouraged. However, given an honest effort, catching stripers should not be viewed as something akin to the scaling of Mt. Everest.

Part of the reason stripers are held in such exaggerated awe, is because many anglers don't really have a chance to fish for them on any sort of consistent basis. Thus, they never acquire the necessary skills and knowledge that can come only from experience. If you don't own or have access to a boat, the only avenues open to you are fishing the surf or chartering. Two options, which for a variety of reasons, may not be feasible to many. So where does that leave us poor unfortunates who don't possess a boat, cannot manage frequent charter boat trips and are not dyed-in-the-wool surfmen? Party boat striped bass fishing, that's where!

Party boats fishing exclusively for stripers are a relatively new addition to the local fishing scene, and thus, this fishery is still under-publicized. So before you start having visions of crowded boats where everyone spends most of the time tangling and untangling lines, let me reassure you that I have yet to sail on a boat with more than 20 customers on board, even on weekends, and I have made over a dozen such trips. The lack of anglers is so amazing, you might think the skippers involved were trying to keep this action a state secret.

Since party boat bass fishing is somewhat of a specialty item, there are only a few open boats that engage in it. In the New York Bight area, the "Miss Take" out of Highlands, New Jersey, along with the "Elsie K III" and the "Flamingo III" out of Gerritsen Beach, only a stone's throw away from Sheepshead Bay, sail for stripers.

Party boat bass fishing is a late-autumn affair. Last year, the boats switched over to bass in early November, after the blues thinned out, and stayed with them until just after Thanksgiving, with the "Flamingo III" making its last trip on December 1st. Thus, the fishing is pretty much limited to the month of November. Some stripers will be caught by party boats diamond jigging in the Bight for blues and weaks throughout the season, but bass will not be taken in appreciable numbers until October. At this time, most of the boats will be advertising for blues and stripers, but if it's bass you want, I would advise waiting until the boats sail solely for stripers. Otherwise, you will most likely find yourself fishing for blues. This is because the skippers will tend to concentrate on the more abundant and easier-to-catch blues over the less abundant bass.

Most of the stripers you can expect to catch will be schoolies, so you should use fairly light gear to maximize the sport. I use a seven foot medium-light spinning rod with a Shakespeare 2430 reel loaded with 12 pound test Ande line. I fish the 2 and 2½ ounce tube jigs with this rig. I also bring along a beefier conventional outfit to handle the heavier diamond jigs that account for many bass, and which will also handle any big bluefish in case the choppers make an impromptu appearance. The conventional outfit I use consists of a 6½ foot Fenwick 20 pound trolling blank I wrap myself, and a Daiwa 50H fast-retrieve reel filled with 20 pound test. Any comparable outfit will do, as long as you have a fast-retrieve reel should you wind up speed-squidding for blues.

Artificials are employed in this fishing, and they will be jigged while the boat is drifting over productive ground. Diamond jigs and tube jigs are the most popular lures. The Ava 27s and 47s along with the four ounce Vike jig, all single-hooked, are the favorites. The two ounce Tiger Tail, the S&G Eel, and the Bingle 2½ ounce Nordic Eel, are the most effective tube jigs. I have had the most success with a white Nordic Eel. The Nordic Eel comes in a variety of colors. Besides the white, it would be a good idea to include a bright (red, green) and a dark (grey, black) Nordic Eel in your arsenal.

The lures are tied directly to the end of your line with an improved clinch knot. If good sized bass, or toothy blues are about, you may want to rig a three foot length of 50 pound test leader to your main line with a barrel swivel. When the fish are not plentiful or just in a finicky mood, a teaser tied about two feet above your diamond jig often elicits strikes when all else fails. The teaser most often used is a white surgical tube, similar to, but a bit larger and with a stronger hook than a mackerel tube.

All these lures attempt to emulate the movements of the sand eels upon which the bass feed. Since stripers do not move as fast as blues, keep in mind that your lures **must** be worked slower than if you were jigging for bluefish. Many anglers, used to speed-squidding for blues, have a tendency to retrieve their jigs too rapidly, a tendency they must overcome.

As the skipper slows down the boat prior to making a drop, make it your business to be stationed at the rail, rod in hand, so you are ready to cast your jig the moment the whistle signaling "lines down" is blown. I cannot overemphasize this. Most of the fish you catch will be hooked on your first or second cast, right at the onset of the drift. After the first five minutes, the boat will probably drift off the fish, and the skipper will probably run to make another drift. Sometimes, as the skipper is running the boat, the depth recorder may mark a good concentration of fish right under the boat. Invariably, the captain will try to bring the boat to bear over these fish, and order lines down. If you are on the ball, you may pick a quick fish before they move off, therefore it pays to be alert. Save that sandwich or beer for later in the day when the action is apt to slow down anyway.

Whether you are using a diamond jig or a tube jig, to reiterate, they must be worked slowly. When using a tube jig such as the Tiger Tail or the

Nordic Eel, begin to retrieve the lure slowly as soon as it settles on the bottom. About every third time you turn the handle of your reel, give the jig a twitch with your rod so it bounces along the bottom. You may want to try variations on the intensity or frequency of the jigging motion, but the speed of retrieve should always be fairly slow. Some fishermen forego the jigging and use a straight, slow retrieve. Others don't bother doing anything at all; they just let the boat's drift drag the tube along the bottom. Of the three methods, I find the first one to be the best. When a bass hits a tube jig, he will, more often than not, swallow the whole thing and hook himself, but it always pays to rear back on the rod to set the hook. Sometimes you may be plagued by missed hits. If this happens often, what is probably happening is that the bass are just nudging the lure to inspect it, and there isn't much you can do about it besides waiting for a hungrier fish.

The diamond jigs are best worked by casting and retrieving them, you guessed it—**slowly!** Since the bass are usually hooked right off the bottom, some anglers only work the jig halfway up before letting it back to the bottom and working it again. The purpose of this is to keep the lure in the water as much as possible. Another technique calls for no retrieve, just a slow bouncing of the lure off the bottom as the boat drifts along. This, I believe, is the original form of jigging, and is accomplished with long, slow, sweeps of the rod.

The sailing time of the boats varies, but is usually between 6:30 and 7:00 AM. Most of the fishing is done at the Tin Can Grounds, located about a mile off the Breezy Point jetty which crowns the tip of the Rockaway Peninsula. You can figure to be on the grounds anywhere between 7:00 and 7:30 AM, early enough to catch most of the morning, which is when the bass are more apt to be active. Overcast days will often provide better fishing than bright sunny days, because the clouds will encourage the fish to feed throughout the whole day. On sunny days, stripers tend to lessen their activities the higher the sun climbs into the sky, and the action is often over by, say 9 or 10 AM. Therefore, you should be prepared to fish hard early in the day, because that is when most of the action is likely to occur. A tide change in the morning usually perks up the fishing, more so if it is the flood changing over to the ebb. The last two hours of the flood are good, as are the first two hours of the ebb. The slack period between the tides generally signals a lull in the action. This doesn't mean other tidal stages are bad, only that the higher tide is the most favorable, assuming other conditions, such as the winds, cooperate.

Apart from the Tin Can Grounds, other local areas that may harbor bass include the Coney Island flats, the Channel and the Sandy Hook area.

Open boat angler displays a pair of husky school bass taken on the Tin Can Grounds.

The Tin Can Grounds, however, tend to get the most pressure. As I noted earlier, most of the fish you will catch fall into the schoolie category. Don't forget the 24 inch limit takes effect November 7th, after which fish below the 24 inch mark must be returned. Throw back those shorts! Bass to 15 pounds are not uncommon, and occasional fish running into the mid-20s are boated. Real big bass, cows of 30, 40 and 50 pounds are very seldom taken on party boats. My guess is that most of the bass caught here are fattening up prior to their migration up the Hudson River for the winter.

As far as what kind of action you may expect, this is obviously going to vary from day to day and depends on your individual skill. Do not expect to catch bass as you would porgies or blues. Given a decent day, from two to six fish per angler is not unusual. Some sharpies may manage to put upwards of 10 bass in the boat on a really hot day. I have only been skunked twice on a dozen trips, and have usually managed three or four fish a trip.

As I mentioned before, this fishing is so unpublicized that crowds do not present a problem. In fact, lack of fishermen often presents a problem, due to the fact that on weekdays, this late in the season, there is a chance that not enough customers will show up to warrant the boat's sailing. Weekends will not pose this problem, but even so, weekend crowds are relatively light this time of year by party boat standards.

When the fishing is hot, catching stripers via party boat jigging can be deceptively simple. If you regard stripers as some sort of magical will-o'-the-wisps, this is your chance to disprove the myth. However, don't get too cocky, because just when you start to think that striper fishing is not all that hard, the fish have an uncanny knack of showing **you** a trick or two. Give party boat bassing a try, and I am sure you too will be wondering why so few anglers take advantage of this fishing.

NOVEMBER NEWS

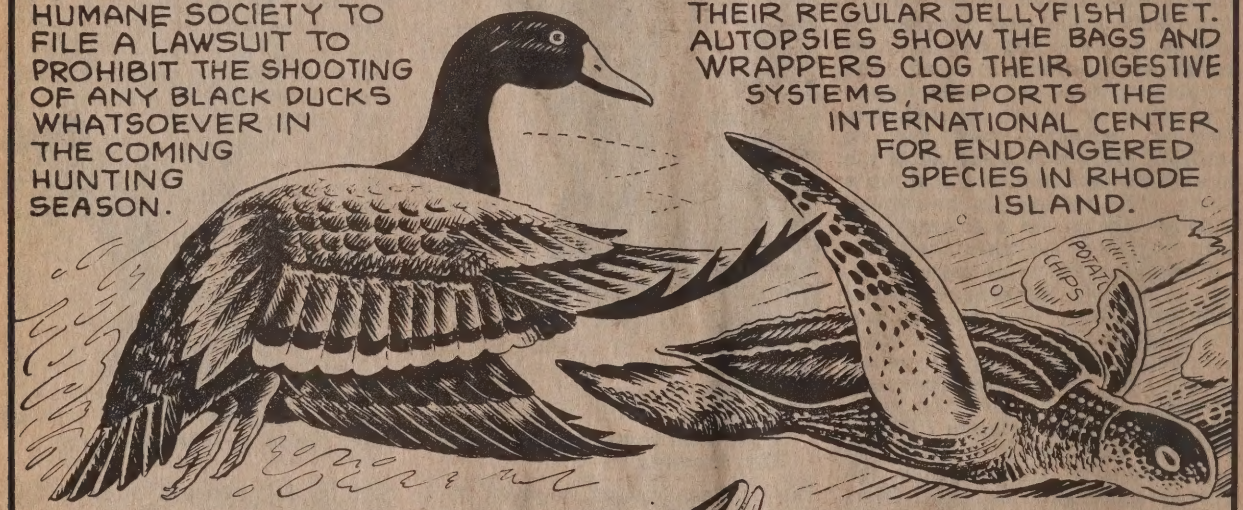
BY FRED GUARDINEER

AN 81 LB. 12 OZ. CODFISH IS A NEW INTERNATIONAL GAME FISH ASSOCIATION WORLD RECORD FOR 50 LB. TEST LINE. IT WAS CAUGHT BY DAVID H. MANN OF GLOUCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

ANNUAL SAIL FISH TOURNAMENT NOV. 29 - DEC. 4 AT ISLAMORADA, FL. CONTACT TOURNEY DIRECTOR, CHARTER BOAT MEN'S ASS'N. IN ISLAMORADA, FL. 33036.

A BLACK DUCK DECLINE OF 60% OVER THE YEARS HAS PROMPTED THE U.S. HUMANE SOCIETY TO FILE A LAWSUIT TO PROHIBIT THE SHOOTING OF ANY BLACK DUCKS WHATSOEVER IN THE COMING HUNTING SEASON.

ENDANGERED LEATHERBACK TURTLES ARE BEING KILLED BY EATING FLOATING PLASTIC BAGS THEY MISTAKE FOR THEIR REGULAR JELLYFISH DIET. AUTOPSIES SHOW THE BAGS AND WRAPPERS CLOG THEIR DIGESTIVE SYSTEMS, REPORTS THE INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR ENDANGERED SPECIES IN RHODE ISLAND.



A 15 LB. 3 OZ. TIGER MUSKELLUNGE IS A NEW STATE RECORD FOR NEW JERSEY AND WAS LANDED BY WILLIAM SEDENGER OF EDISON IN THE SPRUCE RUN RESERVOIR.

ADAM CLAYTON POWELL MEMORIAL WAHOO TOURNAMENT NOV. 30 - DEC. 3 AT BIMINI IN THE BAHAMA ISLANDS. FOR INFORMATION CONTACT FRANK HINZEY, GENERAL MANAGER BLUE WATER LTD. PO BOX 627, BIMINI.

BEST FISHING DAYS FOR NOVEMBER WHEN THE MOON IS BETWEEN NEW AND FULL ARE NOV. 4 - NOV. 20.

"THE FINEST KIND"

by Lou Mauriello

Mr. Blackfish has a well deserved reputation for being the toughest bottom dweller in our area. And it's not all based on his fighting ability!

When you read stories in this, or any other fishing magazine, you will rarely see absolutes in print. Most stories, mine included, contain a liberal sprinkling of words such as, "USUALLY...ALMOST," etc. There are two reasons for that. The first reason is that just when you are sure you have gotten a certain species of fish all figured out, he throws you a curve and you catch far fewer fish than you normally do. The other reason is we writers know there is someone out there who is more knowledgeable than we are and we hate to be corrected in print.

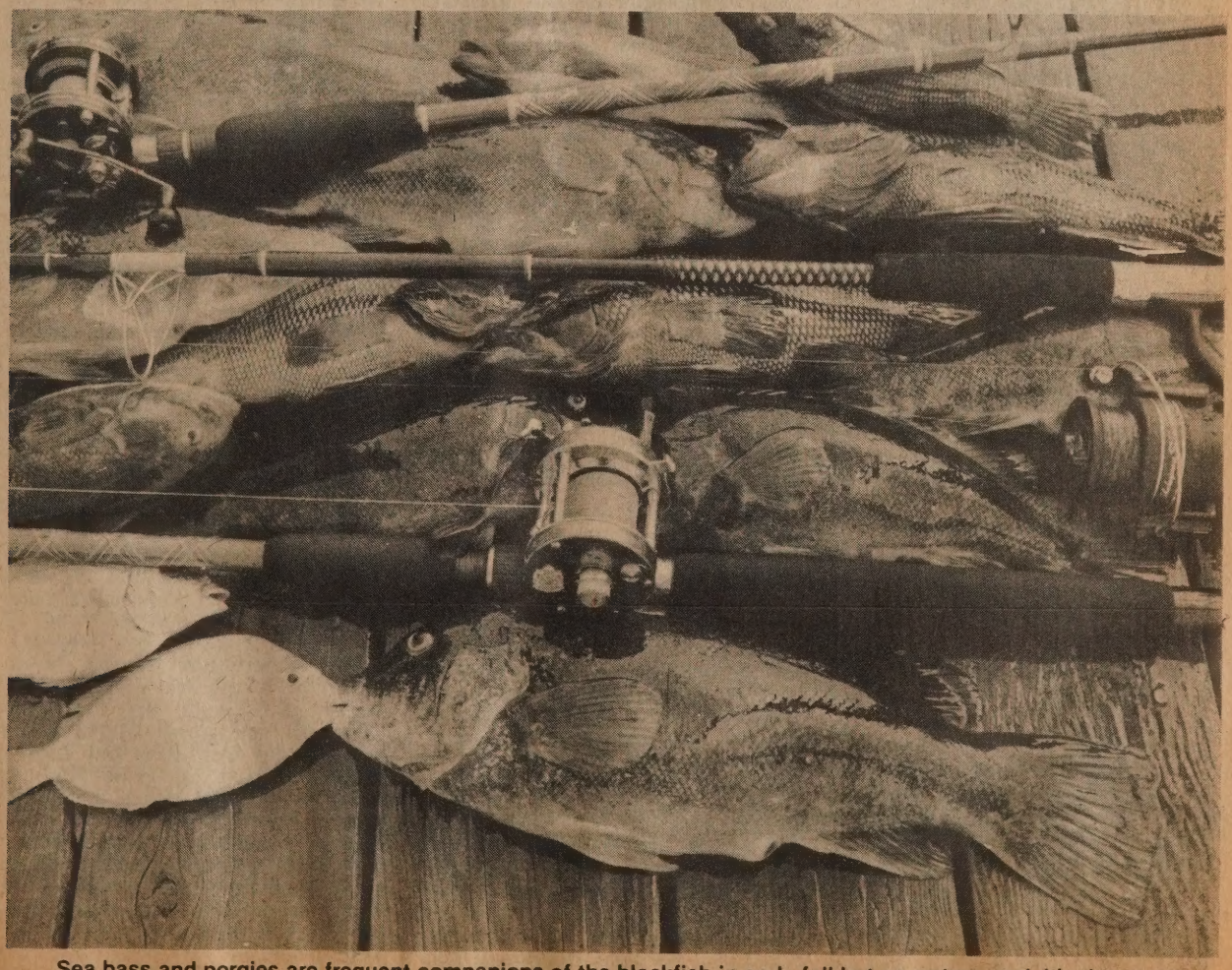
In spite of all the above, I am willing to make an absolute statement. There is no bottom fish, in our geographical area, that is harder to hook or fights as hard on its way to the net as the blackfish. Though he is no speedster, is ugly, and may lack the glamor of other species, he is a worthwhile opponent on matched tackle and rates as my favorite adversary.

I can still remember my first trip for blackfish, over 25 years ago. It was one of those raw, overcast, windy autumn days that chill you to the bone. I recall spending as much time at the rail being seasick as I did fishing and the time spent fishing was not very productive. As a matter of fact, after we docked, I had to purchase a few fish to take home to the family.

Shortly after the above incident, and when my stomach and I agreed the weather would be good enough for another trip, I was fortunate enough to make the acquaintance of Captain Harry Phillips. I soon learned Harry was the master when it came to blackfishing and under his tutelage and that of his mate (the now late Jack Reid) and some of the regulars such as Sy Goldberg, Bill Thompson, Artie Barnes and others, I soon became adept at hooking the wily tautog.

The transition from novice to proficient blackfisherman did not come overnight but rather over a period of several seasons. I was the usual pesty kid with a load of questions, but the

(Continued on next page.)



Sea bass and porgies are frequent companions of the blackfish in early fall but as waters cool, it's the tautog that rules the roost.

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gents on that boat were the best. They would always take a few moments to show me how to rig up or cut bait or explain how to hook our quarry. Thanks, fellas. I now try to assist the novice fisherman, but that is another story; so back to the blackfish.

I soon learned that blackfish are found over rocks, wrecks, mussel beds and other structures where they feed on crabs and assorted shellfish that attach themselves to these obstructions. It is because of this habitat the old saying came about; "If you aren't losing rigs, you won't find blackfish."

If you own your own boat, and have a chart recorder, you will be able to find pieces of bottom that hold fish. Loran C is a big help as it will put you directly over a productive piece of bottom, providing you have the right numbers, of course.

Finding the right piece of bottom is extremely critical in blackfishing. I have seen the printout on chart recorders on many occasions, showing fish on one small part of a wreck or reef and nowhere else, and believe you me, you must anchor directly over these fish as they don't move very far from their haunts to feed.

It is fun finding your own fish, as I do in the bays, but I prefer to do my ocean fishing from the deck of a solid party boat. In this age of modern electronics, quite a few skippers have become quite proficient at finding wrecks that hold healthy populations of tautog.

As mentioned above, Loran C is probably the best friend anyone can have while afloat. I knew it to be accurate and last year I got a firsthand look at just how accurate it really is. While on a blackfish trip aboard the Ranger out of Sheepshead Bay, I was chatting with the captain in his wheelhouse on the way to a wreck. I observed the Loran numbers he had written on a pad and when they came up on the machine, the depth recorder showed the wreck directly below the boat. Not like the old days when clear weather was needed to get ranges for dropping the hook on your favorite piece of bottom.

The population of the blackfish is one thing we need not worry about too much. Because they live in heavy structure, commercial boats cannot drag their nets for them. To do so would be foolish, as they would almost be guaranteed the loss of some very expensive equipment. Of course, that is good news for the sport fishermen, as our supply of blackfish has not been confronted with overharvesting. They do appear to have peak years of abundance, but if there is any set cycle, I have not been able to discover it.

Blackfish, like most other fish, feed better on a running tide. They don't care, USUALLY, if it's flooding or ebbing as long as it is moving. It is at these times of tidal movement you should fish hard and during the slack tide periods, sit down and eat your lunch or enjoy a pipeful of tobacco.

Weather doesn't seem to be a very important factor in blackfishing. I've caught plenty of them both on calm days when the ocean was like a mirror and on days when the sea was so rough you needed one hand for the rod and one for the boat. My favorite weather is a clear day with a northwest breeze of about 10 to 15 miles per hour blowing.

Tackle for blackfish should be on what most would consider the heavy side. This is essential for two reasons. Firstly, once hooked, the blackfish makes a dash for the cover of either the wreck or reef he is living in. The fish must be turned towards the surface immediately upon being hooked or your chances at landing him are quite slim. Even a small blackfish of two or three pounds can be tough to turn on a willowy rod, so stick to a stiff action rod. The other reason for heavy tackle is because of the tidal conditions that can be encountered while fishing for blackfish. Eight ounce sinkers are the norm rather than the exception when working ocean wrecks while four ounces will generally do the job in the bay.

A reel similar in size to the Penn Jigmaster can be used and I like to load it with quality 30 pound test monofilament line. These reels are sturdy enough to give you years of service, yet not so heavy that they are uncomfortable to fish with.

At the business end of my line, the sinker is attached by way of an overhand loop. I then make a dropper loop about two inches above the sinker and it is here I attach my hooks. Here, as in most of my fishing, I attach the hooks without the use of any hardware. No swivels, quick rigs, nothing that could possibly get caught in the bottom. You will lose enough rigs without the help of these aids.

The hooks themselves are a specialized piece of equipment. Where I am quite happy using the Sproat hook for most of my inshore fishing, I will only use the Virginia style hook for blackfishing. This hook is tied commercially, but I prefer to tie my own. It really isn't a very difficult task to learn and you will have something to do on those stormy nights instead of looking at the boob tube. Simply go to your local tackle shop, and ask for a box of #4 or #5 Virginia hooks made by Mustad. Their number is 4011E and they come 100 to a box. Then buy enough leader material to get the job done. The length and weight of the leader varies with the individual fisherman, but I prefer 12 to 18 inches of 50 pound test as it will take a tremendous beating while rubbing along all those barnacle encrusted rocks.

When it comes to baits though, some like to use fiddler crabs. I would not recommend them as you will find that green crabs catch as well and in addition, are preferred by the larger fish.

Green crabs are the accepted bait for autumn blackfishing and rightfully

so. The most and biggest blackfish I've seen caught, and have personally caught, have been on green crab. These crabs will vary in size from about the size of a silver dollar (the real ones) to about three inches across. You may have to experiment a bit to see what the fish prefer on any given day, but a good way to start is to cut a medium size crab in half, remove the shell and claws and place it on the hook by putting the hook through one leg socket and out another. Be sure the point of the hook is exposed as the blackfish has a tough mouth and is difficult enough to hook without having to try to push the hook through the shell of a crab first.

Other baits I have used are the conch and hermit crab. The conch should be cut in pieces about two inches long by about one half inch wide and beat on with the handle of a knife. You heard that right. It seems to let the juice out or something and it works. The hermit crab is rarely used only because it is not widely available in our area. As far as blackfish bait, it is just as good as the green crab and maybe even better, but finding this bait is quite a task. If you do find a source of hermits, try them and I am sure you will be pleased with the results.

Now for the last part, and probably the toughest, of this article. Blackfish have a reputation as bait stealers, and rightly so. They can and will strip your hook if you don't pay attention to your rod. Here, however, I will try to show you how to hook more fish and lose less bait. Probably the most important thing is, never try to feel a hit but instead, constantly look at the tip of your rod and SEE the hits. Make sure your line is on the bottom and don't allow any slack. Keep it taut with the tip of the rod pointed at the water. This way you can set the hook hard and get the fish headed off the bottom in one motion. As you are looking at the rod tip, you will notice little pecks and you must ignore them as they are bergalls and if you move your bait you will scare any blackfish who may be in the area and is contemplating munching on your crab bait. Wait for a couple of fairly sharp tugs followed immediately by some heavier tugs from the fish. It is at this point that you must set the hook hard. Don't worry if you miss more fish than you hook as it takes years to be able to hook blackfish consistently.

When you get the blackfish home, you will find some very fine eating lies ahead. Whether you boil it and make a salad out of it, fry it or broil it, blackfish is delicious. Remember, its diet consists mainly of crabs, small lobsters and other shellfish, so why should it be anything but great tasting.

Well, I hope you are able to get your share of blackfish this fall. Try some of the tips I've given you and you may find out why we dyed-in-the-wool blackfishermen consider them the grandest bottom feeder found in our area.

From The Fisherman's Library

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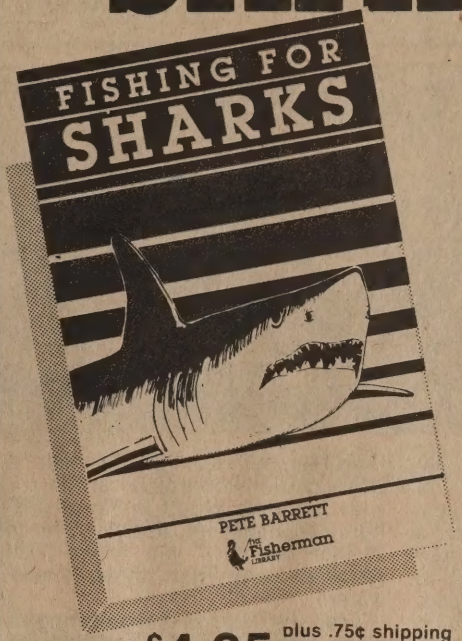

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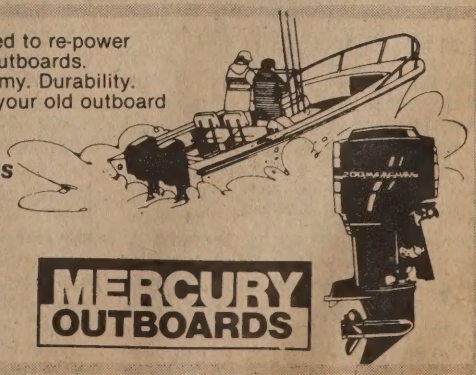

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BACKYARD BASS

by Eddy Weber

You have to be a diplomat, an acrobat, and most importantly, a zealot, to fish the shores on the western end of Long Island Sound; a diplomat to negotiate your way around private land, an acrobat to balance on rocks slick with seaweed, and a zealot to try this type of fishing in the first place. But there are advantages; in a word—stripers.

Bass teem along the western shore in water too shallow to navigate by boat. Just look for jetties, strong currents, or sand spackled by rocks and you'll find stripers. Of course, it's not that easy, and once you've found a spot you'll have to burn up several nights just to find out when the stripers come in.

Gaining access to the shore is the most difficult part. This summer I located spots in Little Neck Bay, Hempstead Bay, and across the Sound, in Mamaroneck Harbor. None of these places were easy to find, but they all produced fish. Since the best fishing is done at night, all leads should be checked out during the day. Ask questions. Where can you fish at night? Is there a public park or an access point? Get a toe-hold. If you have a town beach with a jetty, start there. Ask more questions at the local bait shop. Mention to people you meet that you are a fisherman, you never know who's going to come up with a hot tip. Of course, if you know someone who lives along the shore, bravo. One of my friends shares his catch with a family that allows him to fish off their rocks. He rang their doorbell and arranged this deal; another signed a release freeing the property owner from any lawsuit should he get hurt.

I settle for whatever I get, providing it has rocks, and begin making observations. Are there any sand eels? Where did I see the most swirls? At low tide? Incoming high tides? At dusk? Did I get the most hits when casting towards a certain rock with a certain plug? In time, you'll figure your spot out. And don't let the 24 inch law deter you. Many husky stripers come from these shallow waters.

I carry a bait rod and a casting rod when fishing these shores. On the bait rod I use a sturdy spinning reel with at least 15 pound test, and favor mackerel chunks, best kept in a little ice if you can carry a bucket, especially during the summer. Other baits can be used. One friend of mine swears by sand worms hung two feet down from a bobber, but I lost all my worms to bergalls and found that generally, bait didn't produce as well as lures. One night, for example, I invited Mr. and Mrs. Bass to a buffet. I had two baitsticks out, one with mackerel and one with a live eel that I had imported from Freeport. I didn't get a bite all night long, so I cast out a Rebel, just to keep busy, and was surprised by a 15 pounder. I still use the baitstick so that I can rest for awhile and not feel like I'm missing valuable fishing time, but lure-caught fish were just as big and more plentiful than the fish caught on chunks.

On the casting rod I use 12 pound test, which is just light enough to handle Rebels and RedFins and strong enough to land most fish. I tried droppers but found them cumbersome, though they do produce sometimes when all else fails. In fact, in the beginning of the season, when I was struck by a serious case of striper fever, I tried every lure that I owned and then some. By the end of the season my tackle box felt like it was full of bricks and I realized that I was using only one lure—a blue and silver five inch Rebel. Some of my friends swear by silver poppers and bucktails, but I found that a slowly worked Rebel worked best for me. Perhaps if I hadn't bought all those lures I could afford a boat by now. Maybe I'm crazy, but I'm convinced that I'd rather fish from the shore.

I like windless nights because I can see or hear the swirls and slaps and get an idea where the fish are feeding. Don't give up if you don't see anything as I've had some good nights when blind casting. So, if your wife isn't home drawing up divorce papers, put on a fresh piece of bait, sit down, and let the chunk do the work while you rest, watch, and listen.

One night, I went fishing with a teenage friend of mine who works at a local bait shop in the summer. He took me to his hotspot, a Larchmont breakwater which was rumored to have produced 50 pounders in the past. Anyway, I had just dropped a five pounder (I have since learned to sharpen my hooks before every trip, especially if they're new), and was blinded by a light.

"All right you boys," a policeman called out, "if you aren't gone in two minutes, I'm bringing you in."

I left in a hurry. Unlike my friend, I'm no boy, and didn't feel like getting arrested. Besides I knew of a legal spot, only a mile away. Fishing may not seem criminal, but between the web of insurance suits and the vandals, everybody has to be careful. I try to play by the rules when I fish from the shore. I'm no angel, but I leave a spot quietly and apologetically when I'm asked and try to spend my fishing time in areas where I won't be ordered off.

Fishing from the shore of the west end isn't easy, but for the calm I feel after a night of fishing, the excitement of occasionally beaching a nice sized striper and just spending a night with my Rebel, the moon, and a raccoon or two, all just ten minutes from my home, makes it well worth the effort.

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet . . . −0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." −0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	BREAKWATER HARBOR AM	BREAKWATER HARBOR PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGEPORT AM	BRIDGEPORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THURS.	6:15	6:35	7:00	7:20	6:50	7:10	7:40	8:10	10:05	10:35	9:30	10:00	6:00	6:20	11/3
FRI.	7:00	7:20	7:45	8:05	7:35	7:55	8:25	8:55	10:50	11:20	10:20	10:50	6:45	7:10	11/4
SAT.	7:40	8:00	8:30	8:50	8:20	8:40	9:10	9:40	11:30	—	11:05	11:35	7:30	7:55	11/5
SUN.	8:25	8:45	9:15	9:40	9:05	9:30	9:50	10:25	12:05	12:15	11:50	—	8:15	8:40	11/6
MON.	9:05	9:30	9:55	10:25	9:50	10:20	10:40	11:15	12:50	12:55	12:20	12:35	9:00	9:25	11/7
TUES.	9:50	10:15	10:45	11:10	10:35	11:10	11:25	—	1:35	1:30	1:05	1:20	9:45	10:10	11/8
WED.	10:35	11:00	11:30	—	11:25	—	12:05	12:15	2:25	2:10	1:55	2:05	10:35	11:00	11/9
THURS.	11:25	11:55	12:00	12:20	12:00	12:15	1:00	1:05	3:15	3:00	2:45	3:00	11:25	11:55	11/10

On Sandy Hook

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	−0 01
Red Bank, Navesink River	+1 48
Long Branch	−0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	−0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	−0 12
Seaside Park	−0 33
Mantoloking bridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	−0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	−0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	−0 26
Great Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 44
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNSENDS INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	−0 02
Rehobeth Beach	−0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 41
SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Hart's Cove	+1 30
Pontunk Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
Democrat Point	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	0 00
Beach Channel Bridge	+0 38
J.F.K. Airport	+0 26

On Bridgeport

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	+0 08
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0 05
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 05
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42
Falkner Island	−0 13
Sachem Head	−0 10
Branford Harbor	−0 07
New Haven Harbor entrance	−0 08
Milford Harbor	−0 07
Stratford, Housatonic River	+0 27
Shelton, Housatonic River	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor entrance	−0 03
Saugatuck River entrance	−0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	−0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On New London

Orient	+0 36
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land, Napeague Bay	−0 14
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point, north side	−1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound	−0 33
Noank, Mystic River ent.	−0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove entrance	−0 01
Norwich	+0 12
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook Jetty	+1 10
Lyme, highway bridge	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On Willets Point

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	−0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28
Port Chester	−0 09
Mamaroneck	−0 08
New Rochelle	−0 24
Davids Island	−0 02

On Breakwater Harbor

CAPE MAY POINT	−0 10
Miami Beach	+0 17
East Pt., Maurice River Cove	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	−0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River entrance	+0 33

On New York

Jersey City	+0 07
George Washington Bridge	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil, W/RR bridge	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburgh	+3 42

On Newport

Sakonnet	−1 10
Tiverton (between bridges)	+0 21
Beavertail Point	−0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Point	+1 10
Bristol	+1 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayatt Point	+0 12
Pawtucket, Seekonk River	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	−0 08
Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge	−0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Block Island (Old Harbor)	−0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 11/3	6:34	4:52
FRI. 11/4	6:36	4:50
SAT. 11/5	6:37	4:49
SUN. 11/6	6:39	4:48
MON. 11/7	6:40	4:47
TUE. 11/8	6:41	4:46
WED. 11/9	6:43	4:45

Moonrise/Moonset

DAY / DATE:	RISE:	SET:
THU. 11/3	4:44AM	4:01PM
FRI. 11/4	5:56AM	4:40PM
SAT. 11/5	7:07AM	5:25PM
SUN. 11/6	8:17AM	6:16PM
MON. 11/7	9:24AM	7:12PM
TUE. 11/8	10:25AM	8:11PM
WED. 11/9	11:20AM	9:12PM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.
11/4	11/12	11/20	11/27

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES

The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs.	3:05	9:10	4:05	9:35
Fri.	3:50	9:55	4:05	10:20
Sat.	4:35	10:50	5:00	11:15
Sun.	5:30	10:45	5:55	—
Mon.	6:20	12:10	6:55	12:40
Tues.	7:20	1:10	7:55	1:40
Wed.	8:20	2:10	8:50	2:35
Thurs.	9:15	3:05	9:45	3:30

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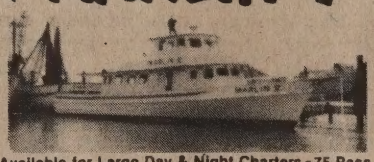

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East End REPORT
with Stu Miller

Newest in the way of news would have to be the striper blitzes hitting the Montauk area on various days of the week. Porgy catches and bluefish catches have remained very solid for boats that were able to get out between the shots of bad weather.

MONTAUK

A call from Capt. Ron Grandinetti of the charter boat **Julie III** advised that Saturday's catch in the strong winds were limited to Montauk Harbor with 83 fat flounder from 3/4 to 2.2 lbs. Sunday's trip for Jerry Velasquez and group of five men totalled 332 blackfish from 3 to 8½ lbs. plus 45 porgies fishing at New Grounds with green crab.

Word from the **Viking Fleet** is that the porgy and codfish action picked up quite well again on Sunday in the mid-morning once the winds and sea calmed down. Porgies have been medium/large on local grounds. While at the Block Islands a solid mixed bag of cod, pollock, blacks and an increase in the number of large porgies were all caught.

From the **Marlin Fleet,** Capt. Rich Rade told of lots of porgy action with fares averaging 75 to 100 fish per man, fish going 1½ to 3 lbs. Plenty of jumbo daytime blues also on bait and on jigs in the 12 to 20 lb. class. A few stripers are mixed in as well, with all action at Cartwright. Please note new time and species schedule in ad.

Captain Bud Dorman of the 6 man limit open boat **Waxed** reports catching striped bass everyday with-

Steve Weini had a great day with tuna in the 60-100 lb. class during a recent charter aboard the Montauk based, "Adios."

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out miss, all on diamond jigs. Some anglers are getting two to three bass, some one and some none. Blues are usually caught by everyone on board. The bass are ranging from teen fish to 30 lbers. and Capt. Bud says things are looking really good.

From the charter boat **My Mate** we learn of Saturday's trip for Builders and Contractors Co., taking four bass from 10-20 lbs. and a load of 5 to 7 lb. blues on umbrellas at Shagwong and at the Point. Sunday's trip for the Lenny Lapetino group of Staten Island jigged loads of blues, took a good mess of weaks to 17 lbs. and also a couple of stripers. This was in the morning. In the afternoon, skipper Joe McBride took the group to outer Shagwong and using green crabs, 40 blackfish to 80 lbs. were taken.

from the charter boat **Ebb Tide** comes news of Wednesdays half day AM trip for the Norman Selbesse group taking 18 stripers to 30 lbs. plus plenty of blues at Great Eastern on umbrellas. Friday's half day trip saw three stripers taken to 31 lbs. at Great Eastern on umbrellas with plenty of blues as well. Saturday's group had 8 bass to 26 lbs. and nearly 100 blues to 18 lbs.

Aboard Capt. John DeMaio's **Vivienne** John told of Wednesday's striped bass blitz whereon the two trips that day, his fares totaled 34 stripers with the largest a 47 lber. taken on a six oz. Ava diamond jig. Fourteen stripers was the body count for Thursday's full day trip. On Monday AM of this week, the charter had 3 stripers to 30 lbs. while John knew of 16 bass taken on another boat, we can see that the fish with stripes are definitely in Montauk. All action is around the lighthouse and environs and fish are hitting umbrellas, cast bucktails and also jigged diamond.

Capt. Bill Ricca of the charter boat **Alyssa Ann** put a party headed by Ken Ducker into a heap of blackfish on Sunday working a special piece of bottom on the south side of the Point. The group bailed 161 tautogs in the 3-9 pound range on green crabs. They also had some sea bass to 3 pounds and also found time to jig 10 blues while anchored up.

Dennis Schmidt of Selden found his bass of a lifetime in the rips beneath Montauk Light Sunday evening. Trolling an umbrella rig on mono from his 19.6 Aquasport, Salty, Dennis hung a bass that tipped the scale at **Angler's Den** in Selden the next morning at 60 pounds, 4 ounces. The Selden angler has been seeking to break the magic 50 pound mark for years. When he did it, he did it with style.

SOUTH FORK

From the Sag Harbor head boat **Wilhelric II** skipper Artie Lach advised that things were tough all week due to the weather, but none-

theless good catches were made on the better days. Wednesday Jack Gleason and two pals from West Islip had 50 blacks amongst them up to 9½ lbs. On Sunday's trip the pool went to Lou Mellilo, Huntington Sta., with a 12½ lb. blackfish. Second place went to Pedro Loran, LIC, with an 11½ lber. and 17 others. Artie advised he will be sailing November 11th, Veterans Day.

From the Moriches open boat **capt. Leo** comes word of great flounder fishing. On Wednesday and Friday's trips fares averaged 35 to 40 keeper flounder a person with a flood tide working best on worms and clam chum. Fish ran 1 to 2 lbs. On Sunday PM's bluefish charter, fares umbrellaed 48, 5 to 15 lb. blues.

From **Speck's Bait and Tackle** in **Southampton**, Thom Speckenbach said that when the winds allowed fishermen a shot, they found very good flounder fishing in the Basket area. Most of the fish being taken here are very good size. Some flounder are also being taken in the Shinnecock Canal while the rocks bordering both sides of the inlet continue to produce blackfish. Thom reminded that he will be closing at 8PM on Fridays effective November 4th, rather than the current 9PM time.

South Shore REPORT

with Fred Golofaro

Wind was the big factor all over the island this past week with few fishable days as a result. From what we could gather, flounder action appears to be in good shape in Moriches and on the upswing in the Great South Bay and State Channel areas. Blackfishing remains solid and there has been some striped bass activity in the inlets.

MORICHES BAY & INLET

Speaking from his **Silly Lilly Fishing Station** in **East Moriches**, Gary Grunseich told of very good flounder action when the boats did get out. They are working Haven's Point on both tides with worms and mussel baits producing. Heavy chum is a must. Boats have been averaging 30-75 flatties with most falling into the 1-2 pound class. Back on Tuesday, Mike and Marie Paeng garnered 105 flatties up to 2½ pounds. On Saturday, Bob Bartalits, Joe Caputo and Jim Granville took 68 flounder.

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Bloodworms • Sandworms
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Al Parnes with a 59 lb. cod on the right and Joe Aleszczyk with a 56 lber., were pool winners aboard the "Viking Starship" during a recent Georges Bank trip.

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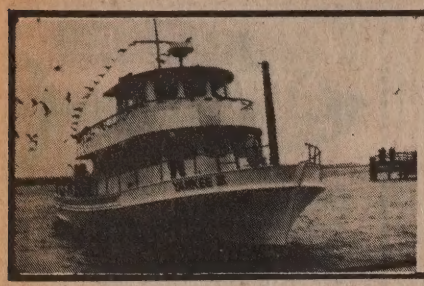
CAPTREE



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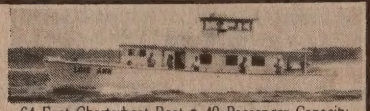

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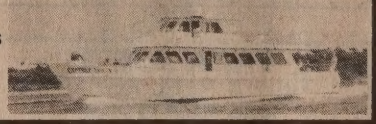

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FOR THE LATEST FISHING NEWS
READ... THE FISHERMAN

On calm Sunday, most boats managed between 40 and 50 fish apiece.

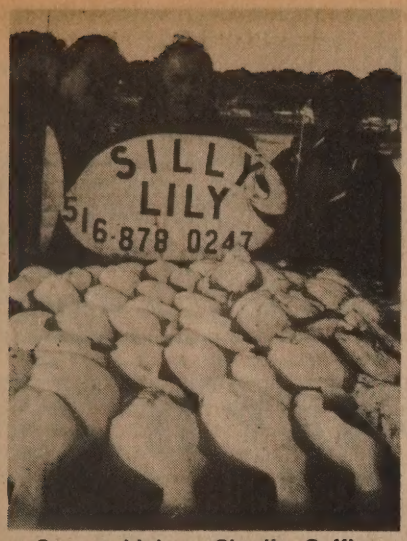
Mary Dallaire of **L & M Marine** in **East Moriches** told of good flounder action at Hart's Cove. Rental boats did very well on Sunday on incoming water with most of the fish in the 1-2 pound range. Mussel chum and bloodworms have been the most effective combo. On Saturday, despite strong winds, Steve Alter and his son Joshua found enough lee in the cove to take 50 good sized flatties.

GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

Paul Graniello of **J & J Tackle** in **Patchogue** spoke of improved flounder fishing in the bay off of Sayville and Heckscher but added that most days were unfishable due to the wind. A couple of small flounder have been showing off local docks also. Blackfishing remains good at Kismet and on other bay wrecks.

Al Colban of **J & R Tackle** in **Oakdale** said that lots of blackfish remain on the Kismet Reef and flounder fishing is now worthwhile at buoys 4-5, Heckscher, buoy 2, Dickereson Channel, and off of Good Sam Hospital. Al expects that when bay waters settle following all the wind we should see some good fishing in these areas. Al heard of a few stripers taken last week on live eels and also trolled umbrella rigs near the inlet. White perch up to 2 pounds are in Mill River, Brown's River and Carman's River. When the outside is fishable there are blackfish and sea bass on the Fire Island Ocean Reef and big bluefish on ocean wrecks.

From **Peppy's Bait and Tackle** in **East Islip** Irene told of Alan Mathews and Russel Moran, Jr. who checked in 3 blacks up to 6.7 pounds which were



George Linkus, Charlie Coffie and Ed Merrill with a fine catch of fall flatties to 2½ lbs. taken at Haven's Pt. in Moriches Bay. The trio fished out of Silly Lily Fishing Station in E. Moriches.

taken at Captree on Saturday. Irene heard of some good flounder fishing inside the Sore Thumb Pocket, at Heckscher and in Dickerson Channel prior to all of the wind.

Over in **Bay Shore**, Carl Miller of **Smokey's Tackle Shop** was busy closing up shop for the season. He asked that we thank all of his customers for a good season and wish them a healthy winter. Carl will have a booth at the N.Y. Sportsmen's Expo in January. Before hanging up, he told of some good flounder fishing in the State Channel between Babylon and Lindenhurst. He also knew that the Bay Shore private boat Patricia found a school of 6-8 pound blues along the beach south of the light on Sunday and jigged up a bunch of them.

Huge bluefish continue to haunt the offshore ocean wrecks which is where the **Captree** open boat **Capt. Scotty 3** has been concentrating its efforts. Capt. George Tweedy spoke of super fishing on Sunday with lots of big blues being taken. The season long boat pool is presently being led by a 20 lb., 4 oz. blue despite catches of a few blues in the 22-23 pound range taken by anglers not entered in the pool. Some sea bass and a couple of cod have also been mixed with the blues as well as an occasional pollack to 30 pounds.

Capt. Carl Passero of the **Captree** open boat **Jib VI** has been trying to work his ocean blackfishing around some very rough seas. On Thursday, half a dozen fares managed 100 blacks and sea bass. On Saturday, rough seas resulted in picky fishing with Jim Pergalizzi taking the pool with an 8¾ pound black. Sunday's fishing was fair as Mike and Robert Guido filled a pail and a half with blackfish and sea bass. The skipper, has been concentrating his efforts on the Fire Island

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Ocean Reef, said that most of the catch now consists of blackfish with the emphasis on quality. He added however that the numbers will come.

Capt. Charlie Kennedy of the **Captree** open boat **Capt. Joseph II** did a nice job with the blackfish on Sunday. Twenty-two fares finished with over 300 tautogs as well as a few nice sized sea bass. Most of the blacks are in the 2-4 pound class with some 6-8 pounders mixed in. Sunday's pool winner went to a 10 pound tautog. The skipper noted that severe winds cut Friday's trip short and totally eliminated Saturday.

Capt. Speedy Hubert of the **Captree Speedy Fleet** said that after being wracked by severe winds most of the week and into the weekend, Sunday's bluefishing aboard the VII was an all out slaughter for fish ranging anywhere from 3 up to 18 pounds. Fishing was done 2-4 miles south of F.I. Water Tower with all of the action on diamond jigs.

From **Augie's Tackle Shop** in **Babylon**, Fred Austin spoke of a real quiet week and weekend as a result of all the wind. Its effects carried over onto calm Sunday when most boatmen found the flounder and blackfish action off. It had been good prior to all the wind and Fred expects it to bounce right back. No word on any bass activity in the area.

Mike Andreani of **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle** said that the best bet for flounder continues to be Squaw Island and the State Channel along with

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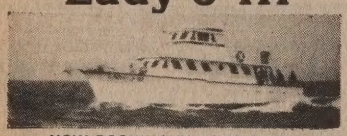

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on Sunday as John Decica topped off a load of big fish with a 20 pound slammer. Some good size flounder being taken in the Massapequa area and there are good numbers of fish being taken but most are still on the small side. Some school bass at the Robert Moses Bridge on Umbrella Rigs.

Thirteen-year-old Nick Ceccarini with a pair of 2½ lb. fluke taken in Great South Bay. Photo courtesy of Peppy's Tackle Shop in E. Islip.

Bergen Point. Blood or sandworms and clam chum account for the best flounder scores. He too expects that fishing will bounce back after all of the wind. The Kismet Reef remains well populated with blackfish and there are still some stripers which are being taken on white umbrella rigs near the Robert Moses Bridge. Big blues are outside the inlet and on offshore wrecks and being taken on jigs and bait.

Z Crab Tackle in **Copiague** with Ralph Angelillo at the helm reported a very good catch of big blackfish up to 10.4 pounds and including a few 8 pounders made west of the R.M. Bridge this past week by the crew aboard the Misty II. They used fiddler crabs. Big blues were all over Cholera

West End REPORT
with Stu Miller

No red hot changes in this area except to note that codfishing is now going to get some major attention from the larger open boats in the area. Flounder continue to build on the inside and blackfish continue strong at the bridges, wrecks and rocks.

WEST END BAYS/ JONE'S INLET

From **Wansers Bait and Tackel in Seaford** comes the encouraging news of fair flounder catches with hotspots being the west side of the drawbridge Black Banks, Zachs Bay and Haunts Creek on worms and clam chum. Other customers are stopping in with

reports of continued good blackfishing at the bridges and wrecks on fiddlers and greens.

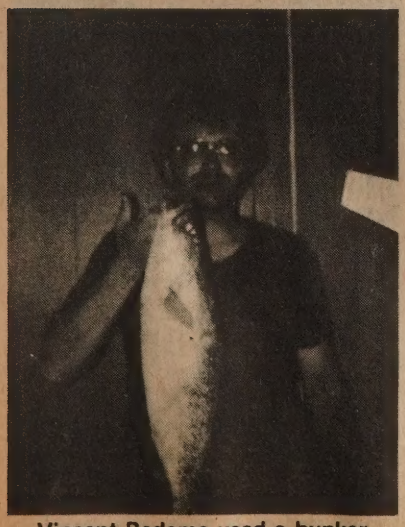
From Jim at **Merrick Tackle in Bellmore** we hear of good flounder catches being made on the east side of the 4rd wantagh bridge for numbers and the west side of the 2nd Wantagh for quality fish. Some blues to 19 lbs. and also a few stripers are being taken at the Inlet on bait.

Moving over to the **Freeport** boats we hear from the **Super Spray II** that they are now switching to codfish on a 5AM daily schedule.

Captain Pat of the charter boat **Lady J III** fished a group from Pfizer Saturday. Heavy weather kept them from bluefishing but they picked away nicely at blackfish from the local bridges. Sunday's trip for Bklyn Union Gas Fishing Club had very good black and sea bass catches out on a few ocean wrecks on green crab and clam. The wrecks produced quality fish and in numbers as well.

Captain Richie of the **Starstream II** is now fishing for giant cod 5AM daily. On two cod trips made this week on Thursday and Sunday, anglers had very good success. Thursday saw Bob Bennett of East Meadow take the pool with a 42 lb. cod. Dennis Muhlenforth, Commack, followed that one with a 33 lb. pollock, while Larry McCall had 11 cod and 2 pollock. Herb Phillips and son bagged up with 18 cod and pollock. All fares had fish said Richie. On Sunday's cod trip the pool went to a 43 lb. cod caught by Richie Escobar while his dad Angel took a 38 lb. pollock. The pollock hit a diamond jig and the cod a glob of clam.

From the charter boat **Capt. Gary** we hear of Saturday's trip for Lori Kusintsky and friends who had a fair pick on flounder in Long Creek and Reynolds Channel despite strong winds. Sunday's trip for Fish and Brew Fishing Club enjoyed a super



Vincent Badame used a bunker strip after dark to take this 8 lb. weak from the South Channel Bridge. Subscriber photo.

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flounder day. Ken Edgar took the pool with a 2½ lb. flounder and 35 more keepers. High hook was Mike Lange with over 50 keepers. Gary said he had over 300 fish on the boat that day. Forty-eight flounder was the count for Tom Goepfert, Sr and Jr.

Flounder catches were decent during the week when you could get out said Capt. Tony of the **Miss Freeport II.** Many local drops were made and fish went up to 1¼ lbs.

Very good flounder fishing was the report from Capt. Andy for the days they sailed between the weather. The skipper advised that the size of the fish seems to be increasing, working the north end of Swift and Long Creeks.

The word from the **Bluefin Fleet** is that the blues continue to be fairly good weather permitting. Mickey Berrios, Bayside had a 16 lber. at 17 Fathoms. Flounder activity increased a little Saturday with high hook going into the high teens fishing Freeport and Merrick Creeks. Barry Wood was high hook on flounder with a catch in the teens. Captain Sy advised that he still has some choice cod and blackfish dates open.

Ronnie at **Hudson Pt. Fishing Station** advised that good flounder fishermen are catching in Merrick Bay, Fundy Bay and at the juncture of Long Creek and Woodcleft Canal and also on the flats at the drains. Worm and clam chum are the key ingredi-

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Only 3½ years old, Ren'ee Rauchut's fishing career is off to a fine start. Here she shows off her first fluke, taken during a trip aboard the Freeport open boat, "Capt. Lou IV."

ents. Continued very good blackfishing at bridges and local wrecks on green crab. Blues at the south side of Cholera, Three Sisters, Middle Grounds and 17. These are giant fish and there are more giant blues on the offshore wrecks along with big sea bass.

Moving on to the Point Lookout area, a call from the charter boat **Marie III** told of Saturday's fair flounder catch working in the bay from the M bridge/Long Beach hospital with flatties going from a half to 1½ lbs. Blackfish from 1 to 2½ lbs. has been best in western reynolds off the hospital. Sunday's trip for the Rockville Centre Fire Dept. saw them in the AM on an inshore wreck bailing blackfish from 4-7 lbs. on green crab. In three hours of fishing the average catch ran from 8 to 30 fish a man. In the PM they moved off SE of Gilgo and slaughtered blues from 4 to 22 lbs. Pete Brown had the pool fish a 23 lber. Joe Dwyer managed a 21½ lber. while Bob Ottman could only manage an itty bitty 19½ lb. blue. This was all on diamonds.

Aboard the **Captain Bill**, fares had a picky week due to the weather. Thursday saw Merrick Angler Frank Rizzo with 40 keeper flounder. The weekend's catches were kept down by the strong winds and murky water. High hooks for the week ran from 5 fish into the high teens, with flatties up to 1¾ lbs. The boat concentrated on the back bay areas.

Aboard the **Miss Point Lookout** the main thought was of the week's high tides and strong winds, but flounder were still coaxed into cooperating a good part of the time. During the week high hooks ranged into the 20s. On Wednesday's AM trip Eric Olsen had 18 good flounder while on the PM trip, Bill, a regular, took the pool plus 22 other flatties. On Thursdays PM trip, Carol and Brian Crowley had 35 flounder plus the pool fish. Saturday's PM trip was slow. Marilyn Salvato had 12 flounder including the pool fish. Sunday's AM trip was slow also. Jak Aitis of Woodburn took the pool. Sunday's PM trip saw catches improve with Tom Schineller taking high hook honors with 17 fish and the pool. Areas fished were Long Creek, Reynolds and High Flats Drain.

From **Ed's Fishing Station** the word is that the best flounder catches out of their rental fleet came from the Swift Creek area off the houses on Sunday. Skiffs that worked the CG area and Sloop Channel also had a decent pick. Worms and clam chum and corn were all effective. Blackfish continue to be caught at the Meadowbrook bridge on fiddlers and greenies.

From **Beckmann's Tackle in Lynbrook**, Charlie B advised that the flounder catches he learned of through his customers were fair to good, with fish getting bigger. Best areas has been Reynolds Channel and the creeks feeding into it with worm or clam or mussel chum. Plenty of blackfish at the bridges, rocks, piers and wrecks.

A call from Capt. Ron Lepper of the charter boat **Kim** told of excellent bassing through Thursday, then the weather hammered Friday's and Saturday's fishing with most anglers not able to get out those days. Sunday became excellent again for bass. Schoolies were in predominance along with 15 to 18 lb. chopper blues. The waters off Debs Inlet were worked and umbrellas and bunker spoons are catching.

Word from **Long Beach Sports Marina** is of solid flounder fishing from Lindell school to the railroad trestle, buoy 5 and the Cedarhurst yacht club. Bob and Frank Merino hoisted 37 flounder to 2 lbs. using bloods and mussel chum Sunday. Blackfishing continues to be great at the AB bridge and gong buoy. Bass are being diamond jigged and trolled at the Tin Can on Nordic eels and umbrellas while a few 20 lb. class stripers are being livelined along the Rockaways.

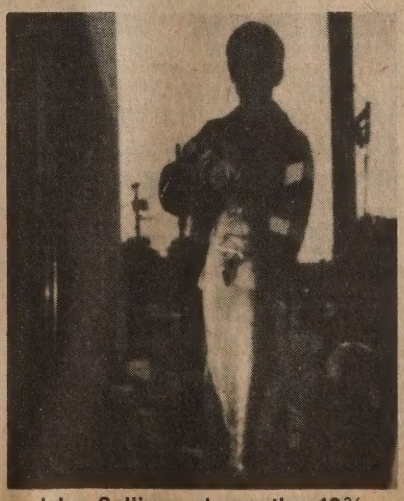
From **Reynolds Reef Fishing Station in Atlantic Beach**, Big Al repeated the story about the blackfish having a tremendous time at both ends of the AB bridge, at the Silver Point jetty on fiddlers and greenies. Flounder up to 2 lbs. in the hole on the SE side of the ABB on worm and corn. Huge blues being taken in the Deb Inlet area on bunker spoons. Four to 15 lb. stripers are being caught by various methods at the Tin Can. Mike Friends on his boat Mirage, fished the Bacardi wreck with bait and chum taking 13 bluefin tuna from 50 to 80 lbs. The Four Queens fishing Farms belted 14 to 18 lb. bluefish in big numbers.

NEW YORK BIGHT

To the west in Sheepshead Bay, a call from Capt. George of the **Pastime II** told of the flounder fishing being good to excellent with average catches in the 20s and 30s. The wind on the weekend slowed things a bit but larger fish were willing to bite. Friday Mrs. G took the pool with a 2¾ lb. flounder and three more were in the 2-2½ lb. class. On Saturday, Jim A was high hook with 19 flatties despite high wind and poor conditions. Sunday bounced back with catches averaging 15 to 20 a man with Deepwater John ringing the bell with 39 flatties. The pool fish was a 2½ lb. specimen. The boat has been working the Roundhouse and Brighton Beach on mussel and worms. The boat's new weekday schedule is one trip, at Noon with the weekend schedule remaining unchanged.

Captain Butch of the **Zephyr** who is now fishing weekends and holidays only reports excellent blackfishing. Thursday was good and Saturday in the wind catches ranged from 15 to a half bucket per man and even better on Sunday wtih fish going to 6¾ lb. on green crab.

Aboard the **Pilot II**, Captain Tom was extremely happy with the great blackfishing on wrecks and rocks with fish ranging from 2 to 8 lbs. Tom advised that good fishermen could catch anywhere from 25 to 30 fish a trip. Through Sunday he's been working 40 to 60 ft. depths and he says the fall run is on.



John Sullivan shows the 19¾ lb. blue he took recently in the Atlantic Beach surf. It was weighed at Skippy's Tackle Shop in E. Rockaway.

North Shore REPORT

with Marty Garrell

High winds devastated fishing plans through most of the week, but Sunday's angling was excellent just about everywhere. Blackfish are in full swing, and some bass and blues are still available. As bluefish numbers diminish in the coming weeks, look for bassing to pick up on the moon of November.

WESTERN SOUND

Jack Rumpf at **Jack's Bait** on City Island said that blackfishing was very good off New Rochelle, Pea Island and the CBS Tower. Fish to 7 lbs. were edging into 18 feet of water.

The **Glen Cove Sport Shop** reported large blues on chunks, when you could get the bait. Bass fishing except for sporadic action on shorts was very slow. Blackfish were available off local beaches and flounder action was picking up.

Pete Pearson on the **Klondike VIII** had a good day on blackfish on Sunday. The boat sailes from New Rochelle up to Stamford and also

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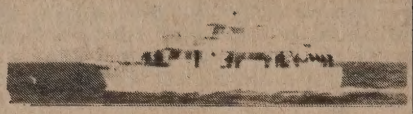

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fished off buoys 11B and 24C. Tautog were in 15-40 foot depths and best action occurred on a running tide. Fish sizes ran from rats all the way to pool winners in the 6-7 lb. class.

Dom Cerbone took the **Apache** from City Island up to the Norwalk Islands and enjoyed a slaughter on tautog in 35 foot depths. Fish ran from a couple of pounds all the way to eight or more. Rocky jagged inshore pieces all seemed to hold fish and green crabs were the tickets to success as well as fiddlers. Cerbone expects to be sailing through the last week of November.

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

The **Caraftis Fishing Station** in Port Jefferson reported quite a few private boats working Old Field and Cranes for blackfish on Sunday. Action was in shallow water still and is expected to hold for another couple of weeks. Keeping the livery open now is a week to week affair.

Ralph's in Mount Sinai will be staying open all year and will have a good supply of fiddlers, green crabs, worms and clams for awhile yet.

Sal Gattuso at **Sutler's** in Port Jeff said that there were some big bluefish from 11 pounds on up, taken by chunkers off local beaches. Flounder activity picked up at the Town Pier on Sunday. Blackfishing is still the best bet locally when you can get to the fish.

Ken Freeman at the **Angler's Den** in Selden figured that blackfish were worth his best shot on Sunday, so he went fishing. He's expected to probe the local bass fishing for himself on Monday.

Packy Collins of the **Ever Ready** from Huntington said that Sunday's results were very good for a group of regulars who had bass and blues in mind. They accounted for three to four bass and a mess of blues per person, and the stripers ranged from 3 to 13 lbs. Bassing was best at mid-tide and the new moon tides should be very good this coming week. The Ever Ready will be finished with regular open groups on the 13th of the month.

NORTH FORK

With persistent northwesterlies through Sunday morning, the **Port of Egypt** was unable to put any boats on the Sound over the weekend. Nevertheless one boat fishing Mulford in the southwest gale on Friday had six nice sized blackfish in one half hour. Bay flounder were reported in Dering Harbor while blackfish action in the Brickyard was picky. The Port of Egypt will be renting skiffs through Election Day and will be open for bait and gas through the 20th.

Seven-year-old Russell Laky displays a fine 9½ lb. weakfish which he took in Cold Spring Harbor aboard the family boat, The Krew.

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The **A.P. White Bait Shop** in Greenport told us that all boats did well Sunday when winds slacked off. The **Prowler, Tuna** and the **Nancy Ann** all returned with glowing reports and the **Brand X** had good results on both Saturday and Sunday.

Richie Jensen of the **Nancy Ann** said that the blackfish are spread throughout all depths on the east end from 12 feet around the Orient Light all the way out to 112 feet around the wrecks. Even in Friday's southwest gale, Jensen produced tautog of 9, 10 and 11¼ pounds, and Sunday's crew of 12 loaded up several hundred fish. All the fish retained were over 3-4 lbs. Jensen told us that the fish haven't even moved to the deep spots around Fisher's Island yet, so the good blackfishing is expected to continue for quite awhile. The Gut, the Race and Gardiner's Island still have all the bluefish any diamond jiggers can ask for.

John Rainis on the **Blue Albatross** found a bonanza on Sunday for a charter working Little Gull and Plum Islands in 45-50 foot depths. Tautog were coming over the rails all tide long. Rainis has charters until the 20th after which he'll be sailing continuously as an open boat through December 4th.

Larry Ciccotto described spectacular fishing on Sunday aboard the **Prime Time II** on blackfish over 5 pounds. Four of the bulldogs in the day's catch pushed 10. Fishing was in shallow water around Plum Island and in deep water to 50-60 feet around Gull Island.

Just before press time George Porter called to say that the **Brand I** had over 800 blackfish for two days (Saturday and Sunday) total with pool fish of 10 and 12¼ lbs. George is

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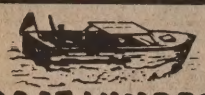

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fishing deepwater wrecks in 90-120 feet where 10 oz. of lead is the norm. Despite a horrendous blow, Porter sailed and scored on Saturday, too. "This is the big league of blackfishing," emphasizes Porter. Many fish are in the 8 lb. class.

Captain Dave Brennan of the **Peconic Star** called to report great blackfishing with lots of big fish up to 10 lbs.

Surf REPORT
with Fred Golofaro

Wind, wind and more wind. That was the big factor on the surf fishing front this past week. Those who knew how to make it work for them, cashed in on some fine fishing and in a number of case, the reward came in the form of big stripers. Once again, the Moriches shore and Montauk continue to lead the way in the bass department. From all indications the north shore has remained generally quiet.

Not all of the big stripers were confined to the east. Dave Noya of Long Beach broke the magic 50 lb. barrier with a 55 lb. cow taken in the Jones Beach area on bait. Scott Greenberg of **Merrick Tackle** in Bellmore who relayed word of Dave's cow said that the west end surf produced some small to medium bass as well as some big bluefish this past week on Bomber and Rebel swimmers, and Needlefish plugs.

Big blues most in the mid to upper teens in weight were taken on bait at

Eight-year-old Daniel Koja with his first bluefish ever. They were caught on a Hopkins at Shagwong Pt., Montauk. Subscriber photo.

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Cedar Beach through most of this past week through Friday evening at Cedar Beach inside Fire Island Inlet. Mackerel seem to have an edge in the bait department but fish were also taken on butterfish and fresh bunker chunks. All of this fishing was confined to outgoing water. Big blues were also in the Democrat Point surf this past week on several occasions. Plugs and tin accounted for some of the choppers here.

Parking Field 4, Robert Moses has had an occasional fish or two in recent days. One, a 12 lb. blue was taken by Ira Marder on a Hopkins on Thursday.

Paul Graniello of **J&J Tackle in Patchogue** told of some impressive bass taken along the Moriches shore during this past week. He did say that the weekend provided little in the way of action except for a few big blues taken by walkers in front of the Smith Point pavilion. Neil Sleuter of West Sayville, whose primary objective during his week long vacation was nailing a big striper, accomplished just that on Thursday. Working the beach west of the inlet with a Hopkins and green tube, Neil put away a 49.8 lb. striper. Another caster known only as Artie managed to break the 50 lb. mark with a cow of 51½ lbs. taken along the same Moriches shore. On Wednesday, John Capute nailed a 26 lb. striper. Dick Bianca and Tom Whitehurst both weighed bass of 33 lbs. and Richie Ossinger had a 26 lb. striper. Yellow darters and 7½ inch Rebels have been accounting for most of the stripers as well as some very big bluefish. Those fishing with bait often have had the edge with the big blues however. One of the biggest blues of this past week was a 20.13 lb. chopper taken by Bob Caufield. The fish was weighed 24 hours after being caught and it tipped a registered hand scale at 23 lbs. shortly after being beached on a bunker chunk Saturday. Other big choppers were weighed by two members of the Patchogue Fishing Club. Jim Belmonte had a 19.8 lb. slammer, while John Tollerini clicked with an 18.7 pounder.

From **Specks Tackle Shop** in **Southampton**, Thom Speckenbach told of lots of bass from 10 lbs. up into the 20 lb. class and a few larger taken earlier in the week on the east side of Shinnecock Inlet. Casters throwing bucktails did well with the fish during the nor'easter but some fish were also taken on the sand beaches later in the week and into the weekend. One caster weighed a 30 lb. striper taken on a popper Thursday afternoon at Cooper's Beach. Tin and tube combos and poppers accounted for quite a few blues of mixed sizes along the sand beaches.

Montauk enjoyed somewhat of a big bass blitz this past week with Thursday night being the best, particularly for those casters that chose that night to work the rocks

(Continued on page 39.)

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To place an ad in *THE FISHERMAN'S* classified section, send in copy for the ad exactly as you wish it to read along with your check or M.O. for the full amount. Rates for non-subscribers are 30-cents per word with a 15 word ($4.50) minimum. Subscribers to *The Fisherman* receive a *Fifty-percent DISCOUNT* if they include the number off their subscription label. Classified rates for subscribers are: 15-cents per word with a 15 word ($2.25) minimum. *Discounts for extended runs:* 12 times, 5%; 35 times, 10%; and 50 times,15%. To run a photo with ad, non-subscribers add $10, subscribers $5.

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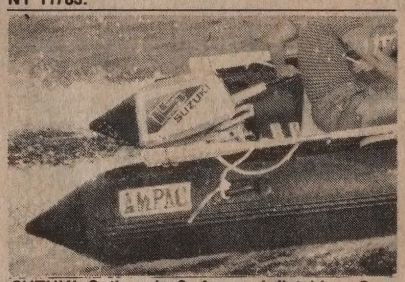

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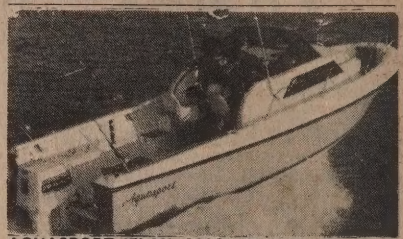

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1969 Larson Shark 18' 8'', 115 hp Evinrude 76, $3900.
16' 10'' Grady White Display model, 60 hp Johnson. Canvas, compass, lounge seat, pedestal seat-5 pass. Flush R/H, horn, batt., turn key & go. $9,650.
1976 Aristocraft 120 hp OMC I/O, Hardtop. $3900.
16' Privateer Bay Boat, display boat. Center console, 35 hp Johnson. $5275.
EDDIE'S MARINE SERVICE CORP., 210 Beach 2nd St., Far Rockaway, NY 11691; 212-327-3168.

1982 PRIVATEER 24', center console, outriggers, 1979 200 hp Johnson. Excl. cond. $7500. PORT OF EGYPT MARINE, 516-765-2445.

CHARTER BOAT & BUSINESS FOR SALE. In lucrative Long Island fishing center. 212-793-6582.

1980 CARVER 28' FB Sedan. Sleeps 6. Briston cond. aboard. Refrig/3-burner stove & oven. AC, hot & cold water heat exchanger, macerator head shower, stereo. Dockside power & water. Cockpit washdown, FB, Camper cover. Summer bridge cover, winter cover & frame. Hailer, compass, synchronizer VHF, radio-phone; fume detectors, depthfinder & other extras. Lo hrs. Yard maintained. $39,000. Janet, 212-893-7000 9-5PM. Eves. 914-632-1164.

MANNINO 1978 20' Garvey. Fiberglass. Teleflex, console, self-bailing hull, deck house. Excl. cond. $1700. 516-878-0247.

1973 36' CHRIS CRAFT Commander luxury sportfisherman. Twin diesels, loaded, AC, auto. pilot, Loran, chair, etc. Better than new. 546-1630.

1976 TOPAZ 28 S/F. Twin 233 Mercs. Fighting chair, Loran C, VHF. Full elec. & ready to fish. $24,500. 212-667-1804.

1974 19' MAKO, 115 Johnson, E-Z Loader trailer. Full canvas, outriggers, downrigger, VHF, depth finder. Excl. cond. $8500. 516-589-5481.

1979 MAKO 19' 140 hp Evinrude w/PT&T, CB radio, depth finder, swim platform. All canvas & cushions. Like new cond.; w/Shoreline trailer. Will Demo. $8500. Eves: 516-496-7336.

Capt. Frank Braddick's charter boat HURRY UP—30' Columbian, Fiberglass, 200 hp, Perkins diesel. Tower, 3 fighting chairs, Loran, Radar, auto. pilot stern controls; & much, more more inc. 5¼ cu. ft. freezer. Professionally maintained; ready to fish. Docked in Montauk. Asking $42,500. 516-423-3955; 516-668-5034.

24' AQUASPORT 1977, twin 150 Mercs., P/T, Furuno white line recorder, VHF radio. Full canvas; winter cover. Immaculate. $9900. 516-766-3954.

1978 22' GLASTRON center console, Deep V Sportfisherman. Used one season. 200 hp Johnson, VHF, CB, depth finder, Ritchie compass. Rod holders, teak trim, rear transom seat. Full winter canvas; Bimini & more. Plus dual axle trailer & power winch. Complete $13,500. After 6PM 298-4317.

CRESTLINER 17½ Fiberglass Runabout, V-bottom. New back-to-back seats & steering. Excl. No motor. $795. Williamson, 1260 Ralph St. E., Seaford, NY 11783.

SEEING IS BELIEVING: 1968 25' Pacemaker, Flybridge sportfisherman. Repowered 1980, 220 hp Crusader FWC. Boat rebuilt 1983. New transom, decks, sister ribs, canvas, cushions, cabinets. Bottom refastened. VHF, DF, 2 compasses, SW washdown, pressured FW. Dockside power. Sleeps 4. Firm $6900. 516-475-5729.

1976 26' PACEMAKER, center console w/cuddy cabin. Chrysler I/B. Excl. cond. $16,000. PORT OF EGYPT MARINE, 516-765-2445.

$799 Buys new 14' Fiberglass dory. Floor model. BURCK, 526 City Island Av., Bronx, NY. 212-885-1559.

GRADY WHITE 22' 1982 Tournament OMC 2.6 litre Sea Drive hydraulic steering. Full instrumentation, 4 rod holders, swim plat., SW washdown, live bait well, outriggers, custom full encl. canvas, helm station cover. Dual batt. system, LX200 digital depth/alarm Ritchie HF 73 flush compass, 55 channel VHF, 40 channel CB,dual antenna, SS Prop, Dytek water temp. fuel filter. Engie insurance policy 3 yrs. remaining. Mint cond. $21,700. 516-728-4730.

1970 38' BERTRAM Tower, Rybo chair, 2-853 GM's majored.
1978 34' Columbia twin 330 Chryslers. Fish rigged.
1981 32' Blackfin, turbo cats-Loaded.
1978 31 Bertram Flybridge, turbo cats.
1966 31 Bertram Bahia Mar. Recond; ready for engines.
1977 31 Columbia, twin 270, tower. Full elec.
1974 28 Luhrs Sedan, 225 Chrysler.
1978 26' SeaRay Express Cruiser I/O
1974 25 Chris Craft Tournament tower, twin 130.
1983 235 Mako 235 Evinrude.
1976 23 Mako, 175 Johnson.
1937 17' Chris Craft Speed Boat.
1979 28' Topaz, tower, twin MTD 40 diesels. Full elec. w/fighting chair.
1979 26' Slickcraft
26' Bluefin - tower, fresh engines. Equipped.
20' Shamrock cuddy, 225 Merc. Nice.
28' 1967 Hatteras flybridge, twin 225.
1979 28' Topaz, tower, twin MTD 40 diesels. Full elec. w/fighting chair.
Call SEA JAC BROKERS, Jacksons Marina. 728-4220. Tom or Chris.

18' GLASSPAR cuddy cabin, 105 hp Chrysler, 25 hp Johnson. Both elec. starts. Shoreline galv. trailer, anchor, 200' line, Si-Tex fish finder, CB radio, spare tire & galv. rim; electric winch plus spare hub & wheel bearing. Priced to sell: $5500. 935-1212 8-5PM; after 5PM & Wknds: 368-5538.

FOR SALE: 1974 LUHR'S, Fiberglass twin, 302 engines. Dual sta., flybridge. New Bimini & canvas; depth finder, VHF, CB, Hailer. Fishing or Family. Sleeps 6. Excellent; moving. 516-277-2562

1982 GRADY WHITE 22' Bimini cuddy. 1983 Evinrude 200 hp T&T, 75 hrs. Bought brand new 1983. Every opt. on boat. Plus 2 Penn 620 downriggers; Maxi Horizon VHF, OMC tracker 2000. Si-Tex HE 356 paper rec. Quest spotlight. $20,000. 516-922-3721.

41 '68 HATTERAS 8V53s SF, radar, Loran, Rybo chair, microwave. Nice $89,000. 516-643-2882; 516-543-7120.

AQUASPORT 1980 24' 6 CCC w/7000 lb. Trl, 235 Johnson, 35 Johnson, dual Morse controls, tuna tower, elec. box, DF, VHF, CB, AM/FM, SW washdown, bow rail. Teak fish platform, outriggers, downriggers, pole holders. Full instruments. Lit for nightfishig. Full canvas extras. $18,950 Firm. Days 543-7255. Eves: 724-8710.

1977 CRESTLINER I/O 260 hp Mercruiser. Excl. cond. 90 gal. gasoline tank, Loran, paper recorder, sea temp. gauge, VHF, gin pole. Many, many extras. $11,300. 212-343-5226.

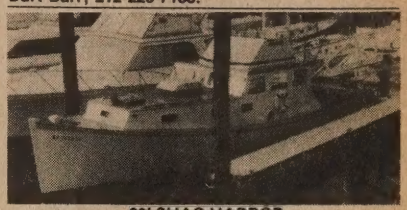
1979 F.L. Tripp 22' Complete Angler, 305 C.I. I/B, FWC. Forward & stern controls; DF, VHF, 5 hp O/B. $14,950. After 6PM. 765-5675/5395.

GOOD BUYS

25' - 68/80 Bertram FB SF-$27,500; 28'-73 Bertram FB SD-$27,000; 3-31' Bertrams from $38,000; 30'-75/82 CC Tournament-$45,000; 35'-72 Custom SF-T/D-$23,100; 42' - 79 Bertram CV Twin Cummings. Clean & ready to fish-$179,000. Call for other fine Yachts. NAUTICAL SERVICE YACHT SALES INC., 305-848-6292.

2 Documented Charter Boats for Sale: 55' - 671 diesel. Lic. 42 +2, all elec. Excl. shape; now sailing. $30,000. 34' Post Sportfisherman, 6 pass.; compl. elec. - $17,000. Must sell. 842-5928.

EVINRUDE 15 hp. 1974. Excellent cond. $450. Burt Barr, 212-226-7188.



38' SHAG HARBOR

"Down East" style—Perfect boat for running in the ocean, fishing, lobstering, commercial or charter work. Ford Lehman Turbocharged 160 hp diesel w/only 300 hours. Extras incl. air conditionres, VHF radio, depth sounder & newly installed EPSCO color chromascope fishfinder. $17,500. 914-636-8444.

26' PACEMAKER Wahoo, 10' beam, 270 Crusader, C/C w/cuddy, legal head. Full electronics; Loran C, fighting chair, gin pole, flying gaff-all new. SW Washdown. 212-474-6422.

GARVEY 18' w/40 hp Evinrude, console, swivel seats. New fiberglass job on plywood. Great shape. Good bass, clam or duck boat. Many extras. $1500 Negot. 516-883-6518 Eves.

1977 CHRIS CRAFT 25' + Tournament fisherman, twin 140 hp. Sleeps 2; excl. cond. "Fast," elec., CG approved. $14,900. 516-931-2172.

15' CHECKMATE Speedboat, 1983, 115 hp Merc. Power trim w/trlr-$6800; 16' Sea-Swan, 1983 center console, 1983 Merc. 70 hp-$5995; 16' Cruisers Inc., cuddy cabin, 83 Merc. 50 hp, Lapstrake wood boat-$2300; 17' Peterborough 1977 Bowrider, 1977 Johnson 70 hp w/trlr-$3995; 17' SeaRay runabout, 50 hp merc w/trlr-$2100; 18' Novi center console, 40 hp Merc. w/trlr-$4000. ANCHOR MARINE, 666 Southern Artery, Quincy, MA 02169. 617-471-2666.

1980 26' GROVERBUILT 120 hp diesel 15kts at 3gl per hr. Teak decks, Loran c, DF, VHF, CB & much more. Perfect cond. 516-775-4531.

BOATING EQPT.

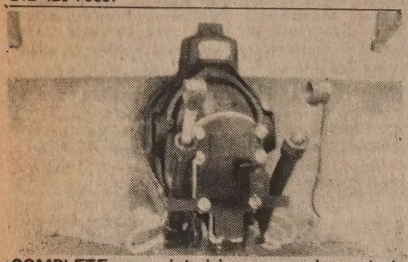
Radar, Loran, autopilots, VHF, SSB, fish recorders. Sales & service most major brands. Custom installations. MARITIME COMMUNICATIONS, Inc., 377 Woodcleft Ave., Freeport, NY, 516-623-4421.

RECONDITIONED Wheel for Commercial Dragger 2½'' D-38-P70 5/16 Key Johnson Machine. 516-747-2933.

WANTED Used Fighting Chair. Murray, Rockaway, etc. 516-728-8761, Nights.

Continued On Next Page

BOAT TRAILERS FOR RENT: Single & Tandem axle. Daily, weekly, monthly rates. Temporary & permanent hitches for Sale or Rent. BARN TRAILER SERVICE, 57-06 B'Way, Woodside, NY. 212-426-7039.



COMPLETE your winterizing process by protecting exposed parts. After removing your Mercruiser O/D for winter storage. This unique protective cover & gasket will seal out all dirt, grit & rain. Trim cylinder support bar shown in photo optional. Send $19.95 for cover & gasket. For support bar add $2.50, to: ROSATO'S MARINE, 37 Beach Av., Copiague, NY 11726. 516-842-2030. NY res. add tax plus shpng. $1.25.

LORAN C¶Simrad Internav 123 w/cables, coupler, antenna, instruction book. Mint cond.-$600. Depth recorder—Si-Tex HE31 w/flasher, cables, transducer. Instruction book; 5 rolls refills. Mint cond.-$375. Riedman, 7 Violet Av., Floral Pk, NY 11001.

Electronics Pkg.—standard VHF, Cobra CB, Mecca 6" white line chart recorder. Complete pkg. only. Make offer. 516-567-9249.

CUSTOM TOWERS, RADAR ARCHES: bow & pulpit rails; fuel tanks. Lower units repaired. Complete stainless steel & aluminum fabrication. Mobile Heli-Arc welding. LONG ISLAND MARINE WELDERS, 563-1999.

GRADY WHITE HARD TOP for 25' model w/Rocket launchers, radio box. Full curtains. $1950. Days: 516-226-2305. Eves: 516-598-3244.

TRAILER HITCHES—The most complete Draw-Tite line of Class I & II hitches in stock on Long Island. Sales, installations & service. TOM CASH WELDING, Lake Ronkonkoma. 516-JU 8-6143.

BOAT TRAILER REPAIR. Complete w/all new galvanized parts. FAZIO MFG., INC., 1121-16 Lincoln Av., Holbrook, NY 11741. 516-563-2263.

$199 Buys "Ice Demon" protects your boat & dock from ice. BURCK, 526 City Island Ave., Bronx, NY; 212-885-1559.

Two used aluminum Tuna Towers. Fits 10' beam boats. Aluminum radar arch. Will fit flying bridge 9-104". $950. 516-563-1999.

3 Watt, 78 ch. Marine hand-held VHF radio w/heavy duty NICAD batt., AC wall charger & flex antenna. While they last: $299. SEAWAY COMMUNICATIONS, Lindenhurst. 516-957-7171.

100% Stainless steel marine prods: rails, towers, ladders, brackets, hinges, cleats, rod holders, shafts, struts, chocks, fasteners, pulpit. Custom & standard products avail. SEABRITE STAINLESS SALES CO., 63 Morris Ave. & Hwy. 35, Neptuns City, NJ 07753. 201-988-8818. Send $2.25 for complete catalog.

20% Off List Price on all Evinrude & Johnson propellers in stock. BURCK, 526 City Island Avenue, Bronx, NY 10464. 212-885-1559.

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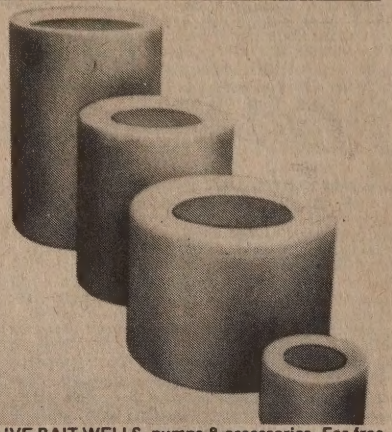
SAVE MONEY!
Turn your favorite rods back to new. All types of rod repairs & wraps in stock. Custom built IGFA rods, 12, 20, 30, 50. Rods sold individually. Discounts on compl. sets. Special orders accepted. 516-724-0478. After 6PM.

ATTENTION TROLLERS. Pair (2) glass rods, 6/0 Penn reels. Pair (2) glass rods, 4/0 Garcia Mitchell reels. Also Hunter's collection. 516-298-5282.

FLOUNDER KILLER RIGS. Flounder are committing suicide on this famous 3-hook rig especially designed for the "meat fisherman." Special design & construction keeps tangles at a minimum. All hand-made finest quality material. 3 completely tied rigs for $3.90. Send check or M.O. to: P. MILLER, 150 Babylon Tpke., Merrick, NY 11566. Our 11th year.

BUCKO'S Parts & Service Center. We carry parts for Daiwa, Olympic, Newell, Ryobi, Penn, Zebco, Quick, Mitchell, Garcia. To order, call: 617-674-7900; or write: P.O. Box 87, Fall River, Mass. 02724.



LIVE BAIT WELLS, pumps & accessories. For free brochure send $.25 p/h. THE CADDY CO., 57 Bayonne Av., Dept. E, Central Islip, New York 11722; 516-234-0144.

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL. Custom built Fenwick trolling rods, Aftco guides, 2 pc. machined seats, aluminum butts, diamond wrapped, choice colors, monogrammed. IGFA 30-$130.00, IGFA 50-$150.00, IGFA 80-$180.00. 516-588-4668.

FLUKE KILLER RIGS—The ultimate in a deadly double hook rig. You'll hook more & lose fewer fluke, since fish can't avoid fully adjustable tail hook. Hand tied, finest materials. 3 for $3.90. P. MILLER, 150 Babylon Tpke, Merrick, NY 11566. Our 11th year.

FOR SALE: Penn International 50 w/Dacron. Never used-$260. Also Penn International 20. Never used-$150. Eves. after 8PM. 212-499-0157.

WANTED!
Fighting Chair with all mounting plates. Good cond.; reasonable price. Prefer brand name. Contact John Ricci, 212-421-3700.

CARBURETORS, starters, alternators. Rebuilt on premises. Free bench check. Same day service. CRAFTSMAN, 268 Rt. 109, Farmingdale across from Republic Airport. 516-752-1259.

MISCELLANEOUS

FISHING BUDDY SERVICE
Tired of fishing alone? Fishing getting too expensive? Send for free information. Box 441, Mastic Beach, NY 11951.

On Water Boat Deliveries: U.S.C.G. Licensed captains. MARINE SURVEY SERVICE, 516-842-5928/757-7041.

GOVERNMENT JOBS. $16,559-$50,553/year. Now hiring. Your area. Call 805-687-6000 ext. R-3617.

EXPERIENCED 1ST MATE—seeking to assist in transportation of motorboats to Southern ports. Solid references. Reasonable fee. John T, 516-582-4376.

HUNTERS, Casey's Back: Deer weighed before and after. Cut and freezer wrapped. Enter "Name Your Deer Contest" Free chance to have your deer butchered free. All for $30.00 Call Casey: 231-4169.

FULLY LICENSED CAPTAIN—Available for charters, water deliveries, transfers, individual trips; boat handling instruction. 516-795-4498.

WINTER STORAGE, summer slips available, wet or dry, in the Jamaica Bay area. Full service yard and shop. Call for our low price. END CHANNEL MARINA. 212-763-5900.

OUTBOARD OWNERS
Save money. Winterize your outboard like the pros. Simple instructions. $3. WADDLE, Box 441, Mastic Beach, NY 11951.

Summer Dockage & Winter Storage avail. Deep, wide, picturesque river in Copiague, 20 mins. to Frank & Dick's. Full service: Mercruiser, OMC & Volvo. Used boats for sale. Check us out. 519 Marina, 519 Boatyard. 516-842-1579/789-8789.

BOAT SLIPS Available. Individual water and electric. Ten minutes to Jones Inlet. Freeport's Woodcleft Canal. $375. 516-868-8266.

FISHING FOR FLUKE by Don Kamienski, packed w/info on drifting, trolling & locating fluke. Baits, rigs, "dropback," casting lures; bay, river, ocean methods. 112 pgs; many diagrams. $4.95 + $.75 shipping. THE FISHERMAN LIBRARY, 339 Herbertsville Rd., Rick Town, NJ 08723.

ANGLING IDEAS. Pete Barrett & Tim Coleman's book of "how-to" on striped bass, cod, flounder, blues, Loran, sharks & small boat. 96 pgs.; many diagrams. $3.95 + $.75 shipping. BARRETT & COLEMAN PUBLICATIONS, 339 Herbertsville Rd., Brick Town, NJ 08723.

SMOKED EELS—Always fresh; always available. Wholesale; retail. VALLEY FOOD PRODUCTS, 560 Franklin Ave., Franklin Square. 516-561-6191.

COMMERCIAL FISHING SUPPLIES
Scallop bags, links, rings, polly prop line. Polly tarps: 8x10, $7.00; 12x15, $15.00; 12x25, $25.00; 20x40, $65.00. COOPERES GALLERY, W. Water St., Sag Harbor, NY 11963. 516-725-0661

DEER HUNTERS—Have your deer weighed, skinned, cut, freezer wrapped. Only $30. 15th big year. Bob Beamish, 665-8839. Enter Babylon Sports Barn free Big Deer contest. Prizes, free butchering. Call for details. 669-2323.

FISH BAGS: The answer to storage problems. Heat-sealed inner liner & zip-around thermal outer liner. Will cool up to 12 tuna with a minimum of ice. Can be seen at: Montauk Marine Basin, Star Island, Montauk. Sea Isle Sport Center, Freeport; Charles Altenkirch & Son, Hampton Bays.

SURF FISHING GUIDE AND TUTOR

Personalized Surf Fishing Instruction with LIF Editor & Surf Fishing columnist, Fred Golofaro. Fishing from a 1984 Ford Bronco. One or two anglers—day & night trips. All tackle supplied. 516-581-0077.

HUNTERS' SPECIAL: Any doe or buck deer shoulder mounted on custom panel w/name plate-$125. Any size B/Bear shoulder mount-$200; Ducks-$85; Geese-$180. Turkeys-$150. Quail-$65; Pheasants-$76. Life size mounts fox-$300. Squirrels-$65. B-Bear-$500. W/T Deer-$500. Note: I have mounted rattlesnakes, trophy size for sale. $150 ea. mount. Many other fish, birds & animals for sale. INWOOD TAXIDERMY, 516-239-7716.

WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE: Old one-lunger inboard. Any make size or condition. 914-831-0687.

WALT'S WALKERS are over the shoe, boot or wader quality, heavy duty rubbers w/12 hardened steel cleats. A must for jetty & ice fishermen & rocky stream fishing. Dealer inquiries invited. WALT'S WALKERS, P.O. Box 32, Manahawkin, NJ 08050. 609-597-5618. Available at Freddie's, Montauk Pt.

LOBSTER TRAPS: 11 + 20 frames, buoys; 6 doors, 4 bundles, lathe + 1 bundle runners. Oak. $200 takes All, Eves: 586-7039.

GRUNDEN & HELLY Foul weather gear, polar jackets & boot liners in stock; plus work boots from Poland under $20. Full grunden suit in international orange or dark green-$79. HEINE MARINE ELECTRONICS, 250 Montauk Hwy., Islip. 516-581-0194.

Free copy of "Outboard Winterizing Procedure." Stop in for your copy. Also, discount prices on winterizing supplies. BURCK, 526 City Island Ave., Bronx, NY. 212-885-1559.

WANTED FOR DEER SEASON: Rod & Gun Club to rent house in prime deer country: 10 rms., 2Bths, lg. kitch. Chenango/Otsego Co. Line. Borders Rt. 23. Nov-Dec. $2000 + Sec. Dep. 607-334-8484.

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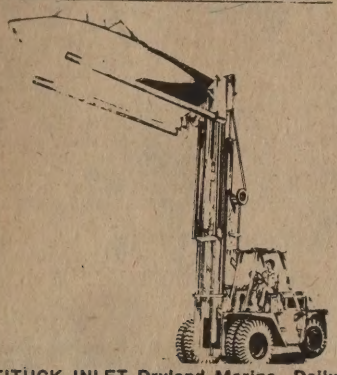
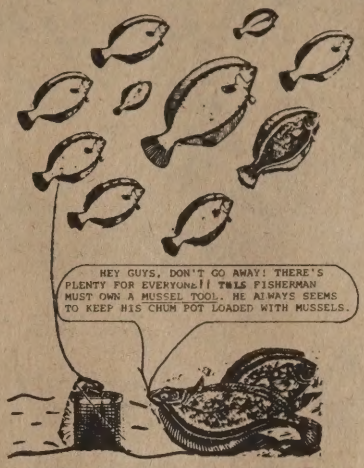


MATTITUCK INLET Dryland Marina. Daily launching up to 25' boats. All year storage—boat & trailer. Naugles Drive, Mattituck, 516-298-9726.

COMPASSES—COMPASSES—COMPASSES
Remember, if it has anything to do with compasses at all, give me a call! Huge inventory of Ritchie compasses. Expert installation & adjustment. Authorized repair service. I also carry a complete line of binoculars, sextants, clocks, barometers. JENS JACOBS NAUTICAL SERVICE, 516-757-7169.

DEER & BEAR Butchering. All meat cuts as follows: steaks, roasts, ribs, stew cuts. No ground meat. DEC laws do not permit me to make ground meat. Price $35. Free butchering w/head mounts. By appt. only. INWOOD TAXIDERMY, 516-239-7716.


HEY GUYS, DON'T GO AWAY! THERE'S PLENTY FOR EVERYONE!! THIS FISHERMAN MUST OWN A MUSSEL TOOL. HE ALWAYS SEEMS TO KEEP HIS CHUM POT LOADED WITH MUSSELS.

SAVE$—SAVE$—SAVE$ ON MUSSELS
Pick bushels of chum & bait with Mussel Tool. No bending, matches your reach. Pincer-like grips, large mechanical leverage, molded hand grips. Special! send $12.95 to: GEORGE CARDEL, 93-08 Francis Lewis Blvd, Queens Village, NY 11428.

FISH IDENTIFICATION CHART—shows 85 salt & fresh water species native to our East Coast. Lithographed in beautiful, lifelike color on heavy, coated stock. Suitable for framing, size 36"x24". Send CK or M.O. for $9.95 to: P. MILLER, 150 Babylon Tpke, Merrick, NY 11566.

WINTER STORAGE
Winter storage from $6.75 per ft.; 14-28'. Full service repair shop specializing in I/O & inboard engines & sterndrives. Volvo Penta, Mercruiser & OMC. Lift service available for boats 14-28'. Winter storage covers on sale up to 50% off. HARBOR MARINE COPR., Copiague, NY. 516-789-8789.

IMMEDIATE!
South Shore Marina desires Service Manager. Heavy experience Evinrude, Johnson, OMC, Mercruiser. Good salary & extra benefits. Send Resume to: P.O. BOX 418, Seaford, NY 11783.

PAINTING: Interior & Exterior by Jack "The Painter" Murray. Let us paint while you fish. 516-273-0960.

FISHING FOR FLUKE by Don Kamienski. Packed w/info on drifting, trolling & locating fluke. Baits, rigs, "dropback," casting lures, bay, river, ocean methods. 112 pgs.; many diagrams. $4.95 + $.75 shipping. THE FISHERMAN LIBRARY, 339 Herbertsville Rd. Brick Town, NJ 08723. TFN

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Delaware County, Hamden-Andes area. Prime deer & turkey hunting land. Only a few miles from the famous "Papacton Res." Plus great trout streams nearby. Very reasonable. Jake, 607-746-2987.

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Rent—Duck Key Condo. Sleeps 4. Furnished, convenient and reasonable. 516-589-7005.

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DISTRESS SALE: 3 prime lots in Silver Spring Shores, FL. $20,000 for all 3. 516-433-4427.

FOR SALE
KEENE, N.H.—4.2 Wooded acres. Water & elec. access. Must sell. Asking $7500. Call after 6PM. 516-725-3915. TFN

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15' TRAVEL MATE Trailer. Sleeps 4-5; couch, dinette, stove, ref., shower, head. Fully equip. Mint cond. Must see. $2900. 516-421-4748.

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under the light. A trio of Striper Surf Club members put away several nice fish that night, but all who fished there had plenty of stories of busted up plugs, straightened hooks and parted lines. Barry Simon took fish of 37 and 39 lbs., Joe Sarantinio took a 37, while George Mandarakas took fish of 15 and 15.8 lbs. The fishing was not limited to under the light as wet suiters working in front of the Air Force base had a bonanza while other casters took fish on North Bar and also at Shagwong. Joey Bragan Sr. se the pace for the Montauk surf crowd this week and also walked off with two of the three slots in the overall bass division of the Montauk Striped Bass and Bluefish Surf Fishing Derby. Joe's largest fish of the week a 54.12 lb. cow earned him top spot in the derby for which he will earn a check of $300 from The Fisherman. He paired that cow with another of 44 lbs. and over the course of a couple of nights took over 20 bass from the teens up to the 54.12 lber. Sam Rispoli topped his own 41 lber. of last week with a 45 lb. cow to nail down second place in the derby. Final standings in the bluefish division were Gary Stephens with a huge chopper of 20 lbs. 14 oz. Joe Eyermann took 2nd place with a blue of 18.10 lbs while Mike Campanelli held down 3rd place with a 16.9 lb blue. Other impressive bass taken over the weekend and weighed at **Johhnys Tackle Shop** in **Montauk** inlcuded a 36½ lber. for Mike Campanelli, a 38.14 lber. for Doris Bragan, taken on a popper at Jones Reef during the day Wednesday. Carl Buxbaum nailed stripers of 27.8 and 35.6 lbs. Dennis O'Connell had bass of 27 and 31 lbs. James Coombs took a 26½ lb. bass and Howard Steckle found a 30 lb. fish. Richie Rask clicked with a 41.14 on Friday night and followed up on Saturday night with a 40.10 and a 25.6. Steve Benai took a 34.8 lber., John Dietz, a 34.12 and his son Chris Dietz finished the scoring with bass of 28.8 and 34.6 lbs. Yellow or white bottle plugs were popular for most casters Thursday through Saturday nights though darters also accounted for a few fish. Wetsuiters relied mostly on RedFins.

LATE FLASH: Two phone calls just prior to going to press on Monday revealed a full scale blitz of big blues along south shore beaches from Moriches through Fire Island. In some spots the fishing was still under way at midday with occasional bass mixed with the blues.

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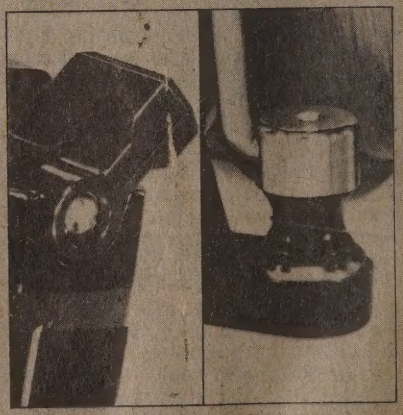

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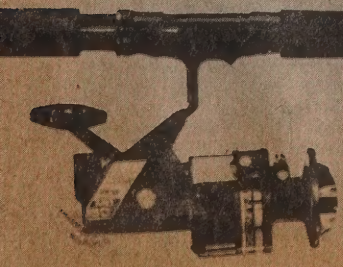

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